

Minutes of the Howey-in-the-Hills Town Council Meeting Held September 14, 2009

Mayor Sears called the Town Council Meeting of September 14, 2009 to order at 6:00 p.m.

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

Councilor Ernest led the Invocation.

Present: Mayor Sears, Mayor Pro-Tem Green, Councilor Ernest, Councilor Nebel, Councilor Ormsbee, Administrator of Financial Services Monday-Bolte, Town Attorney Blom-Ramos and Town Clerk Brasher.

Absent: None

NEW BUSINESS

Consideration and Recommendation of S. Lakeshore Blvd. and E. Revels Road Widening Project to the Lake County Board of County Commissioners

Traffic Engineer Watanabe presented detailed background on this item.

Councilor Ernest said he was in favor of Alternative B and **Councilor Nebel** said she would like Alternative A but she will compromise with Alternative B. **Councilor Ormsbee** asked if the concrete ribbon portion would be a benefit of support to the road. **Traffic Engineer Watanabe** said the ribbon portion would be support. **Councilor Ormsbee** voiced his opinion as a taxpayer of the Town and a resident on Lakeshore Blvd. He further stated it is not fair to judge him prior to the vote.

A lengthy discussion ensued.

The following voiced their opinion on this project:

Diane Sullivan, Charlie Richardson, Del Pearce, Charles Pasch, Toni Moore, Janice McLain, Joy Lothrop, Pam Hunt, Duane Gorgas, Davis, Barry Crowder, Sharon Colture, and Steve Barber.

Councilor Nebel, seconded by Councilor Ernest, moved to recommend Alternative B to the Lake County Board of County Commissioners for the S. Lakeshore Blvd./ E. Revels Road Widening Project. Motion carried 5-0 with a roll call vote.

Resolution No. 2009-008, Approving the E. Revels Road and S. Lakeshore Boulevard Preliminary Engineering Study Report Dated August 10, 2009, Endorsing the Improvements Contained herein for implementation by Lake County; Providing for an Effective Date.

Town Attorney Blom-Ramos read by title only, Resolution No. 2009-008.

Councilor Nebel, seconded by Councilor Ernest, moved to adopt Resolution No. 2009-008. Motion carried 5-0 with a roll call vote.

Appointment of an Elected Official as Director and Alternate Director (Staff or Elected Official) to the Lake County League of Cities

Councilor Nebel gave background on the Lake County Water Alliance and would like to be appointed to the Lake County League of Cities as the LCLC will be discussing alternate water, etc.

Councilor Ernest, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Green, moved to appoint Councilor Nebel as the Elected Official and Clay Ormsbee as the Alternate Director to the Lake County League of Cities. Motion carried 5-0 with a roll call vote.

Consideration and Approval or Denial of Amended Interlocal Agreement Relating to the Formation of a Water Alliance of Lake County.

Councilor Nebel gave detailed background on this item.

Mayor Pro-tem Green, seconded by Councilor Ormsbee, moved to recommend denial of the Amended Interlocal Agreement Relating to the Formation of a Water Alliance of Lake County. Motion carried 5-0 with a roll call vote.

Recess from 7:40 p.m. – 7:50 p.m.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Resolution No. 2009-006, Adopting a Tentative Millage Rate of 7.2500 for the Town of Howey-in-the-Hills, Florida for Ad Valorem Taxes for Fiscal Year 2009-2010; announcing that the Tentative Millage tax is greater than the 6.8317 “Rolled Back” rate by +6.12% which is an increase in property taxes of +6.12%; providing for an effective date.

Town Attorney Blom-Ramos read by title only, Resolution No. 2009-006.

Mayor Sears gave detailed background on the tentative millage rate and the tentative budget.

The Public Hearing was opened.

The following voiced their opinion on the tentative millage rate and proposed budget: Steve Barber, Diane Sullivan, Bob Morse, Toni Moore, Mrs. Davis and Barry Crowder.

The Public Hearing was closed.

Councilor Ormsbee, seconded by _____, moved to adopt a tentative millage rate of 6.8317. Motion died due to lack of a second.

Mayor Pro-Tem Green, seconded by Councilor Ernest, moved to adopt a tentative millage rate of 7.2500. Motion carried 4-1 with Mayor Sears voting no.

Resolution No 2009-007, Adopting a Tentative Budget for the Town of Howey-in-the-Hills, Florida for Fiscal Year 2009-2010, providing for an effective date.

Town Attorney Blom-Ramos read Resolution No. 2009-007.

Mayor Sears gave detailed background on this item.

The Public Hearing was opened.

The following voiced their opinion on the tentative budget: Steve Barber and Barry Crowder.

The Public Hearing was closed.

Mayor Pro-Tem Green, seconded by Councilor Ormsbee, moved to adopt a tentative budget for FY 2009-2010. Motion carried 5-0 with a roll call vote.

Second Reading and Adoption of Ordinance No. 2009-013, Amending in its Entirety Chapter 34, Police Officers' Retirement System of the Code of Ordinances of the Town of Howey-in-the-Hills to Provide for Amendments Applicable to the Municipal Police Officers' Retirement Trust Fund; Providing for Repeal of Conflicting Ordinances; Providing for Inclusion in the Code of Ordinances; Providing for Severability; Providing for an Effective Date

Town Attorney Blom-Ramos read by title only, Ordinance No. 2009-013.

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

Mayor Pro-Tem Green, seconded by Councilor Nebel, moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2009-013. Motion carried 5-0 with a roll call vote.

Second Reading and Adoption Ordinance No. 2009-014, Pertaining to Metered Water Taxes: Amending Section 154-4 of Chapter 154 of the Code of Ordinances of the Town of Howey-in-the-Hills, Florida to Require All Metered Water Taxes Collected By the Town to be Deposited in the Town's Utility Fund Rather Than the Town's General Fund' Providing for Codification and Inclusion in the Code of Ordinances; Ratifying Unamended Code Sections; Providing for Severability; Providing for an Effective Date.

Town Attorney Blom-Ramos read by title only, Ordinance No. 2009-014.

Mayor Sears gave detailed background on this item.

Mayor Pro-Tem Green, seconded by Councilor Nebel, moved to deny adoption of Ordinance No. 2009-014. Motion carried 5-0 with a roll call vote.

It was the consensus of the Town Council to hold the Final Budget Public Hearing on September 28, 2009 at 6:00 p.m.

MAYOR / TOWN COUNCIL REPORT

Mayor Sears said the Hollenbach property will close on or about September 21, 2009 and ask for authorization to sign the documentation required to obtain the property.

Councilor Ernest, seconded by Mayor Pro-tem Green, moved to authorize Mayor Sears to sign the settlement documents for the Hollenbach property. Motion carried 5-0 with a roll call vote.

Mayor Pro-Tem Green said he would donate his Town Council salary for the Employee Christmas luncheon. **Councilor Ernest** and **Councilor Ormsbee** said that was a good idea.

PUBLIC COMMENTS


Barry Crowder asked about the Workers Compensation that was discussed at a previous meeting.

ADJOURNMENT AT 9:07 P.M.

ATTEST:



Brenda Brasher, CMC
Town Clerk


Chris Sears, Mayor