

Minutes of the Howey-in-the-Hills Town Council Meeting Held October 12, 2009

Mayor Sears called the Town Council Meeting of October 12, 2009 to order at 6:00 p.m.

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

Councilor Nebel led the Invocation.

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

Absent: None

PRESENTATIONS -None

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held August 10, 2009, Budget Work Session held August 24, 2009, Town Council Meeting held September 14, 2009, Town Council Meeting held September 28, 2009, and Final Budget Hearing held October 2, 2009.

Mayor Pro-Tem Green, seconded by Councilor Ormsbee, moved to approve the Minutes as corrected. Motion carried 5-0 with a roll call vote.

Write-Off Utility Bad Debt in the Amount of \$561.42 for Artimovich property located at 707 S. Dixie Avenue

Discussion ensued regarding the bad debt write-off.

Mayor Pro-Tem Green, seconded by Councilor Ormsbee, moved to approve the bad debt write-off of \$561.42 for the address located at 707 S. Dixie Drive. Motion carried 5-0 with a roll call vote.

NEW BUSINESS

Update on EAR

Town Planner Shira presented detailed information on the EAR. She further stated it would go to the Land Planning Agency and Town Council on November 9, 2009.

Consideration and Appointment of Kotonya Yochum to the Library Board

Library Director Merchant was not present for this item.

Mayor Pro-Tem Green, seconded by Councilor Ormsbee, moved to appoint Kotonya Yochum to the Library Board. Motion carried 5-0 with a roll call vote.

Consideration and Appointment of Robert Morse or Barry Crowder to the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Mayor Pro-Tem Green, seconded by Councilor Nebel, moved per recommendation of the Planning & Zoning Commission to appoint Robert Morse to the Planning & Zoning Commission. Motion carried 5-0 with a roll call vote.

Consideration and Approval of Request for Bids for Abandonment of Well 1 - fund to be charged 401533630

Mayor Sears gave detailed background on this item as well as the meeting he and Town Engineer Shira attend with SJRWMD. A lengthy discussion ensued.

Mayor Pro-Tem Green, seconded by **Councilor Ormsbee**, moved to table this item to the October 26, 2009 Town Council Meeting. Motion carried 5-0 with a roll call vote.

Consideration and Approval to Begin Negotiations for a Contract to Develop and Implement a Wetland Monitoring Program to Meet the Requirements of Current and Future CUP- fund to be charged 401533612

Mayor Sears gave detailed background on this item and presented a proposal from SMW GeoSciences, Inc. in the amount of \$27,650 for CUP Compliance Condition Nos. 32, 33, 34 & 45. A lengthy discussion ensued.

Mayor Pro-Tem Green, seconded by **Councilor Ernest**, moved to authorize Mayor Sears to begin negotiations for the wetland monitoring program. Motion carried 5-0 with a roll call vote.

Consideration and Approval of Audit Service Provided by Davis Monk & Company for FY 2009 (\$25,000), 2010 (\$26,000) and 2011 (\$27,000)

Mayor Sears gave background on this item. Discussion ensued.

Mayor Pro-Tem Green, seconded by **Councilor Ormsbee**, moved to approve the three-year agreement with Davis Monk & Co, pending the cost of the SRF loan audit be included in the proposed fee. Motion carried 5-0 with a roll call vote.

Discussion: Attendance Policy for Town Council

Town Attorney Wilkes gave detailed background on this item and said there is nothing noted in the Town Chapter regarding attendance, therefore, no penalties can be enforced. Discussion ensued.

Discussion: Alternative Funding for Paving

Mayor Pro-Tem Green stated when the Town put the paving plan into effect, the fuel prices were cheaper. He suggested revising the current paving plan and placing a "special assessment" on the election ballot, which would allow the paving to be accomplished. Discussion ensued.

Councilor Ernest suggested reviewing all streets in the Town and coming back with a report next month. **Deputy Public Works Director Smith** said a paving priority list based on Lake County recommendations had been previously submitted to the Town Council for discussion and action.

Consideration and Approval for Sale of Public Works Vehicle

Deputy Public Works Director Smith and **Councilor Ernest** gave detailed background on this item.

Councilor Ernest, seconded by **Councilor Ormsbee**, moved to authorize the sale of the Public Works vehicle using the sealed bid process and to include a "reserve" bid. Motion carried 5-0 with a roll call vote.

Consideration to Cancel or Change Town Council Meetings for November 23 and December 28

It was the consensus of the Town Council to give Mayor Sears the discretion to cancel the second meeting of November and December.

PUBLIC HEARING-NONE

MAYOR/COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mayor Sears - None

Councilor Ernest – Gave update on the Christmas Festival which will be held on December 12th beginning at 8:00 a.m. There will be a 300+ car show, boat show, food vendors, Howey descendents will be the parade Grand Marshal, crafters, a pancake breakfast and the Howey Men's Club will be serving food.

Councilor Nebel – None

Councilor Ormsbee – None

Mayor Pro-Tem Green – said good job on the budget and it's hard times for everyone.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Charlie Richardson asked for clarification with regards to the Political Forum.

ADJOURNMENT AT 7:20 P.M.

ATTEST:

Chris Sears, Mayor

**Brenda Brasher, CMC
Town Clerk**