

**Minutes of the Howey-in-the-Hills Town Council Meeting
Held April 11, 2011**

Mayor Sears called the Town Council Meeting of April 11, 2011 to order at 6:00 p.m.

Cub Scout Pack 254 and Boy Scout Troop 254 led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Councilor Hall led the Invocation.

Present: Mayor Sears, Mayor Pro-Tem Nebel, Councilor Ernest, Councilor Hall, Councilor Richardson, Town Attorney Blom-Ramos and Finance Administrator Michelle Monday-Bolte.

Absent – Town Clerk Brasher

PRESENTATIONS

Donation to Cub Scout Pack 254 and Boy Scout Troop 254

Mayor Sears presented a donation check in the amount of \$1,500 to the scouts.

Charter Presentation given to Mayor Sears on behalf of the Town by Cub Scout Pack 254 and Boy Scout Troop 254 Cub Master John Seybert, gave background information on the scouts and thanked the Town for sponsoring them.

FY 2009-2010 Audit & OPEB by Alan Nast of Carr, Riggs & Ingram, LLC.

Mr. Nast spoke about the liability the Town accrues by allowing retired employees to continue to participate in the group health insurance. There is a liability in that the current rates are based on ages of participants and that the Town needs to start accounting for the liability of the age rate costs now of employees that will be allowed to participate after retirement. The Town can avoid this by having an actuary report done for determining the associated liabilities and then accounting for these liabilities or by not allowing any members to participate after retirement or by continuing in the current manner and continuing to have this noted as a finding on our future audit reports.

Mr. Nast, in regard to our audit, stated that the General and Utility Funds both made a profit for the year. He discussed the findings that the Auditors had in regard to the audit, and pointed out that they only had one finding. The finding is just that the auditor had to assist in pulling all of the information into a financial report, and that this is standard with smaller government entities.

CONSENT AGENDA

Councilor Hall, seconded by **Councilor Ernest**, moved to approve the Minutes of the March 14, 2011 Town Council Meeting, Minutes of March 28, 2011 Town Council Work Session. Motion passed unanimously.

Councilor Richardson, seconded by **Councilor Hall**, moved to reappoint John Ernest to the Lake County Arts and Cultural Alliance for a one-year term. Motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion: Howey Christmas Festival (Howey Men's Club). **Mr. Williams** with the Howey Men's Club spoke about their willingness to assist in the preparation of the festivities for the Howey Christmas Festival, as long as the Town agreed to cover those that assisted under the Town insurance policy, and continues to provide Town funding and Town employee support.

It is the consensus of the Council members that they would like to add an agenda item to formally approve the Howey Men's Club working on the Christmas Parade this year.

Consideration and Approval of Town Parks & Recreation Board Applications- Applicants are Mike Diemer and Ann Griffin.

Mayor Pro Tem Nebel, seconded by **Councilor Hall**, moved to appoint **Mike Diemer** and **Ann Griffin** to the Town Parks & Recreation Board. Motion passed unanimously.

Consideration and Approval of Two Planning & Zoning Commission Board Applications Applicants are Patricia Ritson and Ed Conroy.

Councilor Ernest, seconded by **Mayor Pro Tem Nebel**, moved to appoint **Patricia Ritson** and **Ed Conroy** to the Planning and Zoning Commission Board. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Sears read the Proclamation for Childhood Cancer Awareness Week.

PUBLIC HEARING

Second Reading of Ordinance 2011-001, Pertaining to Unpaid Water Fees and Charges; Adding a New Section 171-15.1 to Chapter 171 of the Town's Code of Ordinances Entitled "Lien for Unpaid Fees and Charges; Liability For Fees and Charges"; Providing for Codification; Repealing All Conflicting Ordinances or Resolutions; Providing for Severability; Providing an Effective Date. *First Reading held March 14, 2011 and advertised March 18 & 24.*

Town Attorney Blom-Ramos read by title only, Ordinance 2011-001.

The Public Hearing was opened.

As no one present in the public spoke,

The Public Hearing was closed.

Councilor Hall, seconded by **Councilor Richardson**, moved to adopt and pass Ordinance 2011-001. Motion passed unanimously.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilor Ernest

Councilor Ernest spoke in regard to the Public Works new truck. Discussion ensued about cost of vehicle, and possible ways to obtain a vehicle within the set budget.

Public Works Director Padgett is to bring a report to council regarding the type of vehicle and associated costs.

Mayor Pro-Tem Nebel

No additional comments from **Mayor Pro Tem Nebel**

Councilor Hall

Councilor Hall spoke in regard to the use of Golf Carts on public roads. He has been looking into the Ordinance that Tavares passed. He will be getting with Chief for preparation of a presentation at the next workshop.

Councilor Hall stated that he is working on getting a presentation together for the cleaning of Lake Illinois. He further commented that this may be eligible for a grant as this is a restoration of a property that we already have. Discussion ensued as to what information council would like Councilor Hall to provide in his presentation for the cleaning up of Lake Illinois.

Councilor Hall stated that he would like to call a special meeting with Council present in regard to employment issues that need to be addressed within the town. Discussion ensued about this matter. **Mayor Sears** stated he would get with the Attorney and advise council if there was going to be a need for a special meeting.

Councilor Richardson

Councilor Richardson stated that he would like the Town to provide support to the Howey Men's Club in whatever way possible to increase membership and to increase the awareness of the existence of the Howey Men's Club. This could include a link to a website for the Men's club on the Town website, and allowing for information about the Men's club to be posted in town Hall.

Councilor Richardson commented that he would like to see the Town continue to clean the Lakes and would like to see the Town focus on cleaning Lake Illinois next.

MAYOR REPORT

Mayor Sears stated that he would be meeting with **Jim Shira** to continue to work on the SRF loan and to address the additional questions that the state has returned.

Mayor Sears spoke about the trees being trimmed through the grant. He is going to be speaking with **Mike Diemer** about the project and stated that since Progress Energy is not able to come out right away to clear the trees from the power lines it was necessary to change some of the trees that were trimmed.

Mayor Sears spoke of the hard work that the Public Works Department put in to get Lakeshore cleaned up and that it has been completed through Curtis Point. The spraying company would be coming out at the end of April to spray the shoreline.

Mayor Sears reminded all council members that the Mid-Year Budget Review would be the second meeting in April.

Mayor Sears stated that he has not received any word or information from St. Johns in regard to our CUP renewal request.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Denise Gainer thanked the Public Works department for the wonderful job they have done in cleaning up Lakeshore Blvd. **Ms. Gainer** made a few suggestions in regard to helping the Howey Men's Club grow and in regard to helping the Public Works department maintain the Lakeshore Blvd. shoreline.

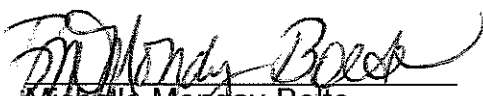
Katonya Yochum informed council and members of the public that were present that the Howey Church would be hosting an Easter egg hunt and would appreciate any volunteers or donations.

ADJOURNMENT AT 7:10 P.M.



Chris Sears, Mayor

ATTEST:


Michelle Monday-Bolte
Admin of Financial Services