

**Minutes of the Howey-in-the-Hills Town Council Meeting
Held October 10, 2011**

Mayor Sears called the Town Council Meeting of October 10, 2011 to order at 6:00 p.m.

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

Councilor Ernest led the Invocation.

Present: Mayor Sears, Mayor Pro-Tem Nebel, Councilor Ernest, Councilor Richardson, Councilor Hall, Police Chief Robbins, Library Director Merchant, Town Attorney Blom-Ramos and Town Clerk Brasher.

CONSENT AGENDA – Only one motion needed to approve the Consent Agenda
Minutes of the Work Session held September 12, 2011, Town Council Meeting held September 12, 2011, Tentative Budget Public Hearing held September 15, 2011, and Final Budget Public Hearing held September 22, 2011

Councilor Ernest, seconded by **Councilor Richardson**, moved to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried 5-0 with a roll call vote.

Consideration and Approval of Lake County Library System Circulation and Registration Policy

Councilor Richardson, seconded by **Councilor Ernest**, moved to adopt the County Library System Circulation and Registration Policy. Motion carried 4-1 with Mayor Pro-Tem Nebel voting no.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion: Paving

Councilor Richardson said he would like to see the Town continue with the paving schedule. He further asked what the pothole schedule is as he does not feel the roads have been maintained and they are getting worse. He said there has been a pot hole on his street for several months which has went from small to large. The Town needs to protect their investment. Discussion ensued.

Mayor Pro-Tem Nebel said within the last six months, the Town Council discussed using tar to fill the pot holes and a list has been presented and the pot holes are not getting filled. She further stated the Town Council agreed to do an aggressive pot hole repair but that has not been happening. Discussion ensued.

Mayor Sears gave background on the Lakeshore Blvd. project and discussed paving while the Lakeshore Blvd. project is being done. He further stated the paving schedule needs to start over and an aggressive pothole plan preserves the roads. Discussion ensued.

It was the consensus of the Town Council for the Public Works Department to use hot patch to fill the pot holes as it wears better than cold patch.

Councilor Ernest said even if Public Works Director Padgett was present this evening, the paving would still not get done. He said the hot mix will stop further deterioration of the roads and the Town owns a pitch furnace for the hot tar.

Mayor Sears said the Town Council can ask for an update at the October 24, 2011 Work Session. **Deputy Public Works Director Smith** said the project is at least a two-week project. **Mayor Sears** said the Public Works Department will get the pot hole repairs done.

Councilor Richardson said all items that are in need of repair and a list of projects. **Police Chief Robbins** said the crew needs to start at one end of the Town and work towards the other end of Town in order to fix the potholes.

PUBLIC HEARING

Second Reading and Adoption of Ordinance No. 2011-003, Pertaining to the Maintenance of Right-of-Way; Revising Chapter 127 of the Town's Code of Ordinances Entitled "Property Maintenance" to Require Property Owners to Maintain the Right-of-Way Located Between Property Owners' Property and the Street; Providing for Codification; Repealing All Conflicting Ordinances or Resolutions; Providing for Severability; Providing an Effective Date. First Reading Held September 12, 2011 and Advertised September 27, 2011.

Town Attorney Blom-Ramos read by title only, Ordinance No. 2011-003.

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

Councilor Richardson, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Nebel, moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2011-003. Motion carried 5-0 with a roll call vote.

First Reading of Ordinance No. 2011-004, Replacing Section 93-15 of the Code of Ordinances, Discharging Firearms, Providing for Severability; Providing for an Effective Date

Town Attorney Blom-Ramos read by title only, Ordinance No. 2011-004.

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

Councilor Hall, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Nebel, moved to adopt the first reading of Ordinance No. 2011-004. Motion carried 5-0 with a roll call vote.

First Reading of Ordinance No. 2011-005, Pertaining to Water Deposits; Amending Sections 171-4 of Chapter 171 of the Town's Code of Ordinances to Provide for Return of Water Deposits to Property Owners; Providing for an Effective Date

Town Attorney Blom-Ramos read by title only, Ordinance No. 2011-005.

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

Councilor Hall, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Nebel, moved to approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 2011-005. Motion carried 5-0 with a roll call vote.

OLD BUSINESS – None

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mayor Pro-Tem Nebel said she attended the Board of County Commissioners Meeting on redistricting and Commissioner Parks and Commissioner Campione voted to put the Town in District One, which is South Lake County. A lengthy discussion ensued.

A lengthy discussion ensued regarding the bridge on SR 19 and the roundabout. **Mayor Sears** said he has made it clear to F.D.O.T. that the Town does not want a roundabout and F.D.O.T. said they are flexible with regards to the roundabout. A lengthy discussion ensued with regards to the Howey bridge. **Mayor Pro-Tem Nebel** said she does not like not knowing what is going on with regards to traffic since she represents the Town at the M.P.O. meetings. The Town Council asked Town Clerk Brasher to email T.J. Fish at the M.P.O. as to what is going on with the roundabout and the Howey bridge.

Councilor Ernest said Public Works will be “closed” every Wednesday until further notice.

Councilor Richardson thanked Councilor Ernest and Councilor Hall for working at the Public Works Department. There is a remarkable difference and things are looking good. He also advised the Town Council to get rid of all the noxious trees on Town property.

Councilor Hall asked Deputy Public Works Director Smith to look at the clogged drain on Revels Road. He said the Chili Cook Off will be held November 5th from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Registration forms are available at Town Hall and on the website. There is a \$10 registration fee and you must cook three (3) gallons of chili and it is \$5 to taste the chili. Said he spoke with someone regarding the installation of a pole for cell towers and the cost is approximately \$150,000.

MAYOR REPORT

Mayor Sears said the following:



- A large tree fell down across a street and was approximately \$3,800 to remove.
- He and Town Engineer Shira have met with the CDD to discuss wastewater.
- Water Plant Expansion Project has been put out to bid.
- Said the Whispering Hills project will be on the October 24th agenda for an update.
- Invited the Planning and Zoning Commission to sit in the audience for the

Whispering Hills update on October 24th.

PUBLIC COMMENTS - None

ADJOURNMENT AT 7:10 P.M.

ATTEST:


Chris Sears, Mayor
Brenda Brasher, CMC
Town Clerk