

**MINUTES OF THE HOWEY-IN-THE-HILLS TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
HELD SEPTEMBER 10, 2012**

Mayor Sears called the Town Council Meeting of September 10, 2012 to order at 6:00 p.m.

Councilor Hall led the Invocation.

Present: Mayor Sears, Mayor Pro-Tem Nebel, Councilor Ernest, Councilor Richardson, Councilor Hall, Town Attorney Blom-Ramos and Administrative Assistant Osborn.

CONSENT AGENDA – Only one motion needed to approve the Consent Agenda Minutes of the August 6, 2012 Budget Work Session, August 7, 2012 Budget Work Session, August 8, 2012 Budget Work Session, August 13, 2012 Town Council Meeting, August 22, 2012 Budget Special Session.

Councilor Hall, seconded by Councilor Richardson, moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Mayor Pro-Tem Nebel not present at one. Motion carried 5-0 with a roll call vote.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion: Pavement Assessment With Report by GEC Pavement Core Evaluation

Traffic Engineer Watanabe discussed the Town's options for road repair within the Town. Discussion ensued.

Discussion: Island Drive Pavement and Storm Runoff

Traffic Engineer Watanabe discussed the drainage problems on Island Drive and stressed that it needs corrected as soon as possible. He said that he needs to get core samples to be able to know what is going on with the road. **Mayor Sears** said he will get pricing, review with Traffic Engineer Watanabe and then bring back to Town Council.

Discussion: Septic and Drain Field at 102 S Palm Avenue

Mayor Sears explained the situation with the septic tank and drain fields. Mr. Lyons and Ms. Merritt were present and discussed the situation with the Town Council. **Mr. Lyons** said he would need a letter for the Lake County Health Department.

Councilor Hall, seconded by Councilor Ernest, moved to authorize the removal of two septic tanks at 102 S. Palm Avenue and properly abandon tanks, drain field and restore property. Motion carried by 5-0 with a roll call vote.

Mayor Sears presented a memo from Jim Shira, Town Engineer, concerning the Modifications to the West Central Avenue Water Treatment Plant Project and asked to add to the agenda.

Councilor Richardson, seconded by Councilor Hall, moved to approve the an additional item to the agenda. Motion carried by 5-0 with a roll call vote.

Mayor Sears explained the Modifications to West Central Avenue Water Treatment Plant Project clarifying the project changes from the original bid of the project.

Councilor Richardson, seconded by Councilor Ernest, moved to approve the Modification to the West Central Avenue Water Treatment Plant Project. Motion carried 5-0 with a roll call vote.

PUBLIC HEARING

Second Reading Of Ordinance No. 2012-006, 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 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

Mayor Sears read by title only, Ordinance No. 2012-006.

The Public Hearing was opened.

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

Councilor Richardson, seconded by Councilor Ernest, moved to approve the second reading of Ordinance No. 2012-006. Motion carried 5-0 with a roll call vote.

OLD BUSINESS

Status of Personnel Policy

Mayor Sears said the Personnel Policy will be an agenda item for discussion towards the end of September of the first of October due to the large number of projects going on at the present time.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilor Richardson – said he would like to have election signs enforced and the codes need to be revised. Discussion.

Councilor Hall – asked about the project at 119 E Cypress Avenue. **Chief Robbins** said they were given 10 day notice and the Police Department is waiting for direction to move forward. Discussion. **Mayor Sears** said he will talk to the owners and Town Attorney Ramos.

Councilor Ernest – thanked Police Department for their assistance to someone in the rain. He asked about the fence at the property at SR 48 and Hwy 19. **Corporal Miller** explained he talked to Attorney Chuck Johnson who said Town Clerk Brasher told them the Mayor and Town Planner authorized fence and didn't need to have a permit. **Mayor Sears** said they were told they needed a permit and have not applied for a permit. Discussion on communication.

Mayor Pro Tem Nebel - none.

MAYOR REPORT

Mayor Sears said he met with the contractor on the library expansion and change orders.

He said he also met with Town Engineer Shira on change orders for the Water Treatment Project and the spreadsheet on our five year debt service and will have that to the Town Council in near future.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chief Robbins asked for a procedure for emails communication. **Town Attorney Ramos** suggested for emails to be sent to Town Clerk Brasher and Administrative Assistant Osborn to forward to the Town Council. **Mayor Sears** said he will have a policy out.

Chief Robbins said he and Public Service Director Smith had a meeting on after hours call out and procedures.

Chief Robbins asked to allow the Police Department to have 30 minute presentation at the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Chris Sears, Mayor

Cheryll Osborn, Administrative Assistant