

MINUTES OF THE HOWEY-IN-THE-HILLS TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD JANUARY 27, 2020

Mayor MacFarlane called the Town Council Meeting of January 27, 2020 to order at 6:00 p.m.

Mayor MacFarlane led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Public Services Director Ernest led the Invocation.

Present: Mayor MacFarlane, Councilor Conroy, Councilor Nebel (Via Phone).

Absent: Councilor McGill (Unexcused) and Councilor Scott (Excused).

Also Present: Town Clerk Burke, Public Services Director Ernest, Chief Thomas and Town Attorney Wilkes.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**Minutes of the December 09, 2019 Town Council Meeting.**

*Councilor Conroy seconded by, Councilor Nebel moved to approve the December 09, 2019 Town Council Meeting.*

**The Agenda was amended to move all Town Business to the beginning and save Citizen Comment to afterwards.**

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**The Town Council sitting as the Board of Adjustment as set forth in Section 9.03.00 of the Land Development Code to hear and decide on for a Variance Application for setbacks from the Land Development Code Regulations for a pool located at 423 Bellissimo Place.**

*Councilor Conroy seconded by, Councilor Nebel moved to approve the Variance Application for setbacks from the Land Development Code Regulations for a pool located at 423 Bellissimo Place. Motion passed 3-0 with a roll call vote.*

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Update: Charter Review Board Applicants.**

**Councilor Conroy** asked Town Clerk Burke to name the applicants.

**Mayor MacFarlane** said that they would place on the following Agenda for approval.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Consideration and Approval to appoint Bernice Hower, 444 Bellissimo Place and Fran Wagler, 409 W Central Ave to the Planning and Zoning Board.**

**Councilor Conroy** seconded by, **Mayor MacFarlane** moved to appoint Bernice Hower, 444 Bellissimo Place and Fran Wagler, 409 W Central Ave to the Planning and Zoning Board. Motion passed 3-0 with a roll call vote.

**Consideration and Approval to vacate Palm Avenue located behind 911. S Lakeshore Boulevard.**

**Councilor Conroy** seconded by, **Councilor Nebel** moved to reject the requested vacate of Palm Avenue located behind 911. S Lakeshore Boulevard.

**Consideration and Approval to execute the AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE SCHOOL BOARD OF LAKE COUNTY, FLORIDA. AND THE Town of Howey in the Hills. FLORIDA. FOR SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER PROGRAM [SUMMER PROGRAM].**

**Councilor Conroy** seconded by, **Mayor MacFarlane** moved to execute the AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE SCHOOL BOARD OF LAKE COUNTY, FLORIDA. AND THE Town of Howey in the Hills. FLORIDA. FOR SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER PROGRAM [SUMMER PROGRAM].

**Consideration and Approval to execute an agreement with Boulevard Contractors Corporation to construct the Library Education Center.**

**Councilor Conroy** seconded by, **Councilor Nebel** moved to execute an agreement with Boulevard Contractors Corporation to construct the Library Education Center.

### **CITIZEN COMMENTS**

**Pat Miller, 201 S. Lakeshore Blvd** asked why her requested item wasn't on the Agenda. **Mayor MacFarlane** stated it was her fault and it would be placed on the next Agenda.

**Joe Zdunski, 714 Santa Cruz** stated that the security for the Town Council Meeting was a bit much and he didn't understand the need to pay additional Officers to be there for security. That one officer and Chief Thomas would be plenty of security.

**Elwis Benson, 406 S. Florida Ave** Passed his Citizen Comment.

### **REPORTS:**

#### **Town Hall & Finance**

**Town Clerk Burke** discussed how they are working on the Audit items and getting an accounting firm to come in and help assist.

#### **Police Department**

**Chief Thomas** said to lock your vehicles.

#### **Public Services**

**Public Services Director Ernest** said that Public Services is working hard and have two requests for bids pending. (Island Drive Improvements and Town Hall Bathroom and Lounge renovations.)

## **Code Enforcement**

**Public Services Director Ernest** said that he was working on Code Enforcement.

## **Library**

**Library Director Hall** said that the approval of the expansion agreement made her whole month. Library Board Meeting would discuss groundbreaking ceremony.

## **Town Attorney**

**Town Attorney Wilkes** said that the Lake County Attorney sent the local Town Attorneys some updated laws on sovereign immunity.

## **Council Members:**

**Councilor David Nebel-No Comment**

**Mayor Pro-Tem Conroy** stated that the bridge construction was completing the punch list items and would open in the spring of 2020.

**Councilor McGill-Absent**

**Councilor Scott-Absent**

**Mayor MacFarlane** stated that the feasibility study for Venezia would be done in March 2020.

## **CITIZEN COMMENTS**

**Sharon Conure, 412 E Revels Road** stated that she wanted to know if the Police presents on Revels Road would be affected if Venezia (South) de annexed.

**Jo-Jo Lowe, 138 E Central Ave** stated on valentine's day there would be a singles mingle at the Library.

**Greg Tafel, 10822 E. Revels Road** stated his great experiences with the Howey Police Department and how thankful he was for them. **Chief Thomas** thanked him.

**Fran Wagler, 409 W. Central Ave**, Howey Mansion opened their doors for the Easter Egg Hunt. April 11, 2020 from 9 a.m. – 11 a.m. Founders Day will be May 08, 2020 and Howey Residents can get tickets to tour the Howey Mansion from 4 p.m. – 6 p.m.

**Elwis Benson, 406 S. Florida Ave** stated that the ground had broke for the Talichet Subdivision and wanted to know the proceeding procedures. **Mayor MacFarlane** said that she would have them by the next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 6:43 p.m.

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Martha MacFarlane, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Dairian Burke  
Town Clerk