

MINUTES OF THE HOWEY IN THE HILLS TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
HELD MARCH 09, 2020.

Mayor MacFarlane called the Town Council Meeting of March 09, 2020 to order at 6:00 p.m.
Boy/Cub Scout Troop 245 led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Public Services Director Ernest led the Invocation.

Present: Mayor MacFarlane, Mayor Pro-Tem Conroy, Councilor Scott, Councilor Nebel and Councilor McGill.

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

CONSENT AGENDA

The approval of the minutes and ratification and confirmation of all Town Council actions at the following meetings of the January 27, 2020, February 10, 2020 and February 24, 2020 Town Council Meeting.

Councilor Nebel seconded by, Councilor Conroy moved to approve the ratification and confirmation of all Town Council actions at the following meetings of the January 27, 2020, February 10, 2020 and February 24, 2020 Town Council Meeting. Motion passed 3-2 with a roll call vote. (Councilor Scott & McGill voting no.)

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Fran Wagler, 409 W Central Ave stated that there was a boy scout in the audience.

Myron Llwewllyn, 508 Bellissimo Place expressed his concern regarding the Town's image and supported the de-annexation.

Larry Morris, 800 Citrus Ave asked for absentee voting ballots. Mayor MacFarlane said that she would get that information.

Sharon Couture, 412 E. Revels Road asked about the proposed bicycle pedestrian path and the discussion of the Venezia sidewalk.

NEW BUSINESS

Consideration and Approval of RESOLUTION 2020-01. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF HOWEY-IN-THE-HILLS, FLORIDA, PERTAINING TO ELECTIONS; ESTABLISHING A CANVASSING BOARD FOR 2020 ELECTIONS; PROVIDING FOR THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE CANVASSING BOARD; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mayor Pro-Tem Conroy seconded by, Councilor Nebel moved to approve RESOLUTION 2020-01. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF HOWEY-IN-THE-

HILLS, FLORIDA, PERTAINING TO ELECTIONS; ESTABLISHING A CANVASSING BOARD FOR 2020 ELECTIONS; PROVIDING FOR THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE CANVASSING BOARD; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. Motion passed 4-1 with roll call (Councilor Scott voting no.)

Discussion: Venezia South Feasibility and Contraction Study.

Town Attorney Wilkes gave a presentation.

Myron Llewellyn, 508 Bellissimo Place asked why Mission Inn wasn't annexed? **Mayor MacFarlane** said that only the condos are in Town and its always been that way.

Sal Gallelli, 1104 N. Tangerine Ave said that it's a done deal.

Discussion: Town Water Utility Water Rates in regard to eliminating the 2018 increase and approving a rate study per ORDINANCE NO. 2015-003. AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF HOWEY-IN-THE-HILLS, LAKE COUNTY, FLORIDA; RELATED TO WASTEWATER RATES, FEES, AND CHARGES; MODIFYING THE WASTEWATER RATES OF THE TOWN; AMENDING CHAPTER 171 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE TOWN OF HOWEY-IN-THE-HILLS, FLORIDA; PROVIDING FINDINGS; MODIFYING RATE SCHEDULES; MODIFYING MISCELLANEOUS CHARGES; PROVIDING FOR ANNUAL INDEXING ADJUSTMENTS; PROVIDING FOR ENFORCEMENT; PROVIDING FOR LIBERAL CONSTRUCTION; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF CONFLICTING PROVISIONS OF PAST RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION AND INCLUSION IN THE CODE OF ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mayor MacFarlane read the title and gave background.

Councilor McGill asked why can't we go back to the 2015 rates? **Mayor MacFarlane** said that the Town needed to review.

Councilor Scott asked Public Services Director Ernest what he thought. **Public Services Director Ernest** replied that materials like pumps need to be paid so he thinks the rate should stay at the current rate.

Councilor Conroy said that a rate study needed to be conducted.

Councilor Scott asked for a timetable. **Mayor MacFarlane** said the Town would set one in the proposal.

Councilor Scott seconded by **Councilor McGill** moved to approve the 2017 water rate remaining in effect and a water rate study be conducted. Motion passed 5-0 with a roll call vote.

Councilor Conroy asked if the Ordinance would need to be changed. **Town Clerk Burke** replied yes.

Marie Gallelli, 1104 N. Tangerine Ave asked if the rate study would include the Consumptive Use Permit (CUP) overage.

David Miles, 33 Camino Real gave background on his work history and said that a rate study should be conducted every 3-5 years.

Mayor MacFarlane requested Public Services Director Ernest to get the request for bids (RFB) ready. **Public Services Director Ernest** replied yes ma'am, tomorrow.

Discussion: Venezia South Sidewalk Request.

Mayor MacFarlane gave background on this request.

Councilor McGill said that the Town had discussed several options and also spoke to some residents.

Councilor Scott said that the discussion regarding a chain link "cattle shoot" type fence area was discussed but there was some fear of safety.

Sharon Couture, 412 E. Revels Rd said that this was the item she was speaking about in the earlier citizen comment and her concern for a ten-foot multi use trail and maintenance of the trail.

Marie Gallelli, 1104 N. Tangerine Ave asked if impact fees could be used.

Walter Schaub, 520 Bellissimo Place asked if Howey was ADA grandfathered in.

Councilor Scott said to have a discussion with Ron Roberts the developer about using an area.

Councilor Conroy asked if the Planning & Zoning could head this.

Special Election Notice: Tuesday, April 14, 2020. Polls are open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Notice will be published in the newspaper per the statute and ordinance.

Mayor MacFarlane gave an update on the voting location.

Consideration and Approval of the recommended updates to the Town's Purchasing Policy.

Councilor Conroy stated that the Policy came to the Town Council a little to early and needed to be reviewed another time.

REPORTS:

Town Hall and Finance working on the audit.

Police Department read letter regarding the hiring of George Brown.

Public Services-No Report.

Code Enforcement

Public Services Director Ernest said that he and Officer Brown have been researching codes and have closed several cases.

Library

Fran Wagler said that on March 20, 2020 at 4:00 p.m. was the groundbreaking ceremony for the library followed by meet the artist.

Town Attorney- No Report

Council Members:

Councilor David Nebel said he appreciated the support from residents.

Mayor Pro-Tem Conroy said that there was a Harris Chain of lakes meeting from 6-7 p.m. at the Tavares Civic Center.

Councilor McGill Read letter for Venezia Steering Committee. Asked about the trees that were trimmed on S. Lakeshore Blvd. Mentioned maybe putting a RFP for legal attorneys.

Councilor Scott asked when the construction of Island Drive will begin? **Public Services**

Director Ernest replied next week. **Councilor Scott** said the political signs need to be removed. **Mayor MacFarlane** said she already told them to do so.

Mayor MacFarlane said that she wanted to clarify that on the Website she only asked Municode to show the posting date on the job opening. **Councilor McGill** said that it was a lie and had the email to prove it. **Mayor MacFarlane** said that she wanted the email. **Councilor McGill** said he would give it to Town Clerk Burke. **Mayor MacFarlane** said to continue to use elbows instead of handshakes and for everyone to remain healthy and check on your neighbors.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Muriel Viehmeyer, 127 E Cypress said that she is disappointed in everyone's behavior. She also said that she was disappointed about the Hummer being parked on State Road 19 as her friend was almost in an accident due to it obstructing the view of traffic.

Sal Gallelli, 1104 N. Tangerine Ave said that the Town should change the garage sale dates. Mentioned the recall and Police Department.

Gregory Brakefie, 230 Messina Place said that he was ashamed of the treatment that was going on. He then asked how much the special election cost. **Mayor MacFarlane** stated \$2,500-\$4,000 dollars. **Mr. Brakefie** stated that the water bill and taxes were super high.

Fran Wagler, 409 W. Central Ave stated that the Friends of the Library went to coffee at Lake Success Academy and it went well. She then also mentioned that the Easter Egg Dash was on April 11, 2020.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.


Martha MacFarlane, Mayor