



MINUTES OF THE HOWEY-IN-THE-HILLS TOWN COUNCIL
HELD JUNE 28, 2021

Mayor MacFarlane called the Town Council Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
Mayor MacFarlane led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
Mayor MacFarlane gave a quick blessing for the Town.

Members Present:

Martha MacFarlane, Mayor
George Lehning, Councilor
Rick Klein, Councilor
Marie V Gallelli, Councilor

Staff Present:

Sean O’Keefe, Town Administrator
Thomas Wilkes, Town Attorney (Virtual)
Cpt. Larry Chester
Lt. George Brown

Excused Absent:

Ed Conroy, Mayor Pro-Tem

Roll Call was performed, and it was determined that a quorum was present.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. The approval of the minutes and ratification and confirmation of all Town Council actions at the June 14, 2021, Town Council Meeting.

Motion made by Councilor Gallelli to approve the minutes; Councilor Lehning seconded the motion. Motion was approved unanimously by voice vote.

PUBLIC HEARING

2. Consideration and Approval (second Reading): Ordinance 2021-004

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF HOWEY-IN-THE-HILLS, FLORIDA PERTAINING TO THE COLLECTION OF SOLID WASTE; AMENDING CHAPTER 100 OF THE TOWN’S CODE OF ORDINANCES TITLED “GARBAGE, RUBBISH AND REFUSE” TO PROVIDE THAT THE TOWN MAY USE THE UNIFORM METHOD OF COLLECTING NON-AD VALOREM ASSESSMENTS TO REIMBURSE THE TOWN BY PLACING THE COST OF SOLID WASTE COLLECTION SERVICES ON A PROPERTY OWNER’S TAX BILL, TO ALLOW THE TOWN COUNCIL TO ADOPT FEES FOR THE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF REFUSE BY RESOLUTION, AND TO REMOVE OBSOLETE PROVISIONS;

**PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, CODIFICATION AND AN
EFFECTIVE DATE.**

Mayor MacFarlane read the Ordinance out loud.

Public Comment:

None

Motion made by Councilor Lehning to approve Ordinance 2021-004; Councilor Gallelli seconded the motion. Motion was approved unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilor Lehning	YES	Councilor Klein	YES
Mayor Pro-Tem Conroy	Excused Absent	Councilor Gallelli	YES
Mayor MacFarlane	YES		

NEW BUSINESS

3. Discussion: Ability to pro-rate the cost of boat ramp permit/key

Mayor MacFarlane asked Town Administrator, Sean O’Keefe, to explain the current process. Mr. O’Keefe stated that currently, the Town charges \$35 for a permit and a key to the boat ramp that works for a calendar year, to be renewed in January of each year. Councilor Lehning suggested that the Town just pro-rate the amount monthly. Mayor MacFarlane stated that the Town staff would go back and create the necessary Ordinance or Resolution so that Town Hall could pro-rate the annual amount depending on what month the permit was being purchased in.

Public Comment:

Sal Gallelli, 1104 N Tangerine Ave. - Mr. Gallelli suggested changing the beginning and ending time to the permit from January – December to April – March.

4. Discussion: Alternate Water Source for Irrigation

Mayor MacFarlane asked Town Administrator O’Keefe to lead the discussion. Mr. O’Keefe stated that the Land Development Code (LDC) allowed for irrigation to use potable water for irrigation only if alternate water sources were not available. Mr. O’Keefe explained that the LDC needed to be more specific about alternate water sources, so that perhaps lake water could be used instead of reclaimed water or potable water for irrigation. Mr. O’Keefe also stated that if lake water were going to be used for irrigation for PUD or neighborhood, then there may be a master meter for the whole development for irrigation, which would not necessarily require separate irrigation meters for each house in that community (so that untreated lake water was not running through residential grade meters).

Councilor Lehning asked who would be controlling the pricing for irrigation water in a neighborhood that did this. Mayor MacFarlane explained that Town would still control the pricing of irrigation water for the neighborhood.

Public Comment:

Peter Tuite, 300 E Croton Way – Asked if new developments would be required to use reclaimed water for irrigation. Mayor MacFarlane said that some new developments might have permits to use other alternate sources of water (like lake water) for irrigation and that our LDC may need to allow for this. Mr. Tuite asked if we could require new developers to use micro-irrigation rather than what they are using now. Mayor MacFarlane explained that the Town Council had recently approved an Omnibus amendment to our LDC and offered to send Mr. Tuite a copy of the amendments.

Pat Miller - Mrs. Miller asked what documentation new residents in Talichet are given in relation to water usage. Mayor MacFarlane explained new residents get a new resident welcome sheet and they are told to check their irrigation timers to make sure that they are correctly set.

5. Discussion: Budget Meeting Schedule

The Mayor asked Mr. O’Keefe to lead this discussion. Mr. O’Keefe explained that after the Town had set the dates for the Town’s budgetary meeting, the Lake County School board and the Lake County Board of County Commissioners selected their dates and they conflicted with the Town’s dates and the County’s dates take precedent over the Town’s. The Town’s first public hearing date would then have to change. The new date for the Town’s first public hearing for our budgetary meeting will now be set for Thursday September 9th at 5:05pm.

Public Comment:

None

Old Business:

None

Council Member Reports:

Mayor Pro-Tem Conroy

Excused Absence.

Councilor Lehning

Nothing to report.

Councilor Gallelli

Councilor Gallelli asked if lawn services changed timers for irrigation. Councilor Gallelli asked who did new home's irrigation inspections. Mayor MacFarlane explained that currently Public Services would be doing that.

Councilor Klein

Councilor Klein asked if we needed to do more workshops for water rates and if the Town was waiting for a water study to be completed. Mayor MacFarlane stated that the Town would have to approve of doing a water study first, which would cost approximately \$20,000.

Mayor MacFarlane

Mayor MacFarlane stated that the CDBG-CV preapplication for a grant for the new Well #5 project that the town submitted came back with the approval to move forward with a formal application. Mayor MacFarlane thanked all individuals that adopted the Town's Bump Outs. Mayor MacFarlane said that she had attended an FWC Harris Chain of Lakes workshop meeting. The small claims trial for previous Town Councilor McGill's suit against the Town would be on July 1st at 1:30 PM. People wishing to attend via Zoom, would need to contact the Judge's Clerk.

Public Comments

Peter Tuite, 300 E Croton Way – Mr. Tuite stated that the FWC Harris Chain of Lakes Restoration Committee is no more, and they were the ones that proposed a canal from Lake Apopka to Little Lake Harris. He encourages people to attend the focus group meeting that the FWC is running for the Harris Chain of Lakes. Mr. Tuite also stated that he believed that a requirement by law is that irrigation systems must have a rain gauge.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Councilor Lehning to adjourn the meeting; Councilor Gallelli seconded the motion.

The Meeting adjourned at 6:42 p.m. | **Attendees: 20**

Mayor Martha MacFarlane

ATTEST:

John Brock, Town Clerk