

**Town of Melbourne Beach**  
**SPECIAL TOWN COMMISSION MEETING**  
**JANUARY 4, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.**  
**COMMUNITY CENTER – 509 OCEAN AVENUE**

**MINUTES**

**Commission Members:**

Mayor Wyatt Hoover  
Vice Mayor Joyce Barton  
Commissioner Sherri Quarrie  
Commissioner Corey Runte  
Commissioner Marivi Walker

**Staff Members:**

Town Manager Elizabeth Mascaro  
Town Clerk Amber Brown

**1. Call to Order**

Vice Mayor Joyce Barton called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

**2. Roll Call**

Town Clerk Amber Brown conducted a roll call

**Commission Members Present**

Vice Mayor Joyce Barton  
Commissioner Sherri Quarrie  
Commissioner Corey Runte  
Commissioner Marivi Walker

**Staff Members Present**

Town Manager Elizabeth Mascaro  
Public Works Director Tom Davis  
Town Clerk Amber Brown

**Commission Members Absent**

Mayor Wyatt Hoover

### **3. Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence**

Vice Mayor Joyce Barton led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **4. Public Comments**

After being acknowledged by the Vice Mayor, members of the public should state their name and address for the record. The Commission encourages citizens to prepare their comments in advance. Each individual will have three (3) minutes to address the Commission on any topic(s) related to Town business, not on the Agenda.

***Ali Dennington***  
***413 Surf Rd***

*Ali Dennington spoke about the \$180,000.00 that was above the original contracted amount for the Brewer Paving contract. What was that money for?*

Commissioner Corey Runte spoke about this being discussed in detail at a previous meeting which you can listen to on Sound Cloud.

Town Manager Elizabeth Mascaro spoke about Ali being able to call or set up a meeting with her to discuss it.

***Curtis Byrd***  
***306 Surf Rd***

*Curtis Byrd spoke about the Environmental Advisory Board doing a Ryckman Park clean-up on January 14<sup>th</sup>. Sea oat planting on February 11<sup>th</sup>. Viva Florida is a History Center grant being used for native garden planting which is scheduled on March 4<sup>th</sup>. The Trash Bash is on April 1<sup>st</sup>. They will have a booth on Founder's Day on May 6<sup>th</sup>. The EAB has another Intern this year from FIT. The Sunshine Jim Foundation provided funding to the EAB and one thing they were interested in was mangrove planting. The EAB is seeking permission to plant mangroves at the end of Avenues A, B, and Sunset in the rocks along the river.*

Further discussion ensued

Public Works Director Tom Davis spoke about being able to maintain ten to twelve of them in house as long as they keep them below six feet.

Tabled till the January Regular Town Commission Meeting.

***Steve Walters***  
***416 Sixth Ave***

*Steve Walters spoke about if the residents have to follow the rules then so should the Commission. Commissioner Runte does not have to authority to call someone out of order and he has been out of order because he was never called upon to speak.*

### **5. Old Business**

A. Consideration of cost to repair the collapsing stormwater pipe on Cherry and Rosewood

Town Manager Elizabeth Mascaro spoke about the dip issue in the road that has been exacerbated after the last two hurricanes. The Finance Manager is looking into the possibility of getting funds through FEMA, but if they do they will only pay as much to restore it back to its previous condition.

Public Works Director Tom Davis spoke about there being at least two previous repairs at that location. There is a PVC joint that has separated which is causing water to go around it and one end of the joint is sinking. Brewer's recommendation is not to repair it again but instead replace it. This proposal was originally to get a starting figure and try to eliminate the mobilization fee from the previous job, but it is too late for that now.

Commissioner Corey Runte spoke about not wanting to vote on this until BSE has reviewed it and then have Brewer provide more details to the proposal.

Item was tabled to get more detailed information.

***Ali Dennington***  
***413 Surf Rd***

*Ali Dennington spoke about agreeing with Commissioner Runte on needing more details. Get more information, and then go through it to make sure it covers everything.*

B. Appointment of Vice Mayor and appointment of the Voting Delegate for the Space Coast League of Cities

**Commissioner Corey Runte made a motion to nominate current Vice Mayor Joyce Barton to continue as the Vice Mayor and the Voting Delegate for the Space Coast League of Cities; Commissioner Marivi Walker seconded; Motion carried 3-0 with Vice Mayor Joyce Barton abstaining from the vote**

***Ali Dennington***  
***413 Surf Rd***

*Ali Dennington asked about why we have a voting delegate and where to get the details about what the voting delegate is doing.*

**Commissioner Sherri Quarrie made a motion to nominate Commissioner Corey Runte as the alternate Voting Delegate for the Space Coast League of Cities; Vice Mayor Joyce Barton seconded; Motion carried 3-0 with Commissioner Corey Runte abstaining from the vote**

Vice Mayor Joyce Barton spoke about what the Space Coast League of Cities is and does.

C. Consideration to engage Bowman Consulting to prepare site plans for Ocean Avenue

Town Manager Elizabeth Mascaro spoke about receiving an agreement for professional services from Bowman Consulting to do conceptual plans for the improvements along Ocean Avenue.

Further discussion ensued

Commissioner Sherri Quarrie spoke about wanting the location corrected where it says Ocean Ave from Sunset which should say Riverside from Sunset.

***Ali Dennington***  
***413 Surf Rd***

*Ali Dennington spoke about the location issue which says Ocean Ave from Sunset to Pine. If you know that you want something make sure it is in the contract, so you know you get what you want and there won't be any surprises. Maybe hold off on the mangroves until this is done and get this to be more specific. It talks about phase two what is that and when is it being done.*

Vice Mayor Joyce Barton spoke about the correct location is Riverside from Sunset to Ocean Ave and Ocean Ave from Riverside to Pine St. Phase two is FDOT's portion of Ocean Ave

***Neal Tompkins***

*Neal Tompkins asked if parking is included in part of what they are supposed to do*

Commissioner Corey Runte spoke about parking is included in the proposal.

**Commissioner Corey Runte made a motion to approve the Bowman Consulting agreement for professional services in the lump sum amount of \$10,525.00 with the conditions of correcting the typo of Ocean Ave should be Riverside and addressing the note at the bottom which conflicts with the scope of work above which mentions adding landscape medians so the contract should include landscape, space planning, and basic design services. Include Neal Tompkins in meetings moving forward; Commissioner Marivi Walker seconded; Motion carried 4-0**

- D. Consider Town representation of Jim Simmons for any further legal action regarding the Election Challenge

Town Manager Elizabeth Mascaro spoke about former Mayor Jim Simmons being named in the election lawsuit and he is asking to be included with the employees and Commissioners as part of the legal representation by the Town Attorney.

***Ali Dennington***  
***413 Surf Rd***

*Ali Dennington spoke about Jim Simmons not being sued as part of his position on the Board of Adjustments but individually as someone who participated in nonpublic meetings, so the Commission would be agreeing to represent someone on an*

*individual basis. If this is approved it should only be approved if it is part of his position on the Board or as a prior Commissioner, or if it is deemed to be illegal meetings then he should pay that money back.*

Commissioner Corey Runte spoke about Town Code 10-2 (a) Agent shall include and be limited to members of town boards and individuals approved by the Town Manager to act as volunteers in the service of the Town and so acting.

**Commissioner Corey Runte made a motion to approve the legal representation of Jim Simmons regarding the current lawsuit by Ms. Dennington; Commissioner Marivi Walker seconded; Motion carried 4-0**

## **6. New Business**

### **A. Consideration of proposal to replace existing gate opening system**

Public Works Director Tom Davis spoke about contacting five companies with detailed specs to get exactly what is needed and only getting something back from Automatic Access Systems.

Further discussion ensued

***Ali Dennington  
413 Surf Rd***

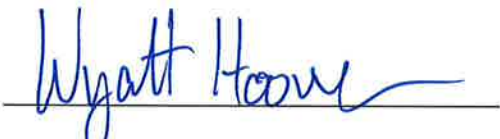
*Ali Dennington spoke about if you are going to put this in then put it in your employee manual saying you should not be walking through it. In general, you get what you pay for, but for metals, gates, or openers for beachside buy the medium one because they will all rust out in ten years anyway.*

**Commissioner Marivi Walker made a motion to proceed with the removal of the existing gate opening system and replace it with the attached proposal from Automatic Access Systems in the amount of \$9,795.00; Commissioner Corey Runte seconded; Motion carried 4-0**

## **7. Adjournment**

**Commissioner Corey Runte moved to adjourn; Commissioner Marivi Walker seconded; Motion carried 4-0.**

Meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

  
Wyatt Hoover, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Amber Brown, Town Clerk

