

Town of Melbourne Beach

REGULAR TOWN COMMISSION MEETING

July 19, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

TOWN HALL TRAINING ROOM

507 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 Attorney Cliff Repperger

Town Clerk Amber Brown

1. Call to Order

Mayor Wyatt Hoover called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Town Clerk Amber Brown conducted a roll call

Commission Members Present

Mayor Wyatt Hoover

Vice Mayor Joyce Barton

Commissioner Sherri Quarrie

Commissioner Corey Runte

Commissioner Marivi Walker

Staff Members Present

Town Manager Elizabeth Mascaro

Town Attorney Clifford Repperger

Building Official Robert Bitgood

Police Chief Melanie Griswold

Fire Chief Gavin Brown

Public Works Director Tom Davis

Town Clerk Amber Brown

3. Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence

Mayor Wyatt Hoover led the Pledge of Allegiance

4. Meeting Agenda – Additions/Deletions/Changes

Vice Mayor Joyce Barton made a motion to approve the agenda; Commissioner Marivi Walker seconded; Motion carried 5-0.

5. Consent Agenda

- A. Approval of the Regular Town Commission meeting minutes June 28, 2023
- B. Approval of the site plan for 510 Third Ave – new home
- C. Reappointment of Board Members
 - 1. Reappointment of Charles Cain to the Board of Adjustment
 - 2. Reappointment of Daniel Hansen to the Historical Preservation and Awareness Board (Ryckman House)

Commissioner Marivi Walker moved to accept the Consent Agenda as presented; Commissioner Sherri Quarrie seconded; Motion carried 5-0.

6. Proclamations/Presentations/Awards

- A. Presentation of Citizen of the Year

Mayor Wyatt Hoover presented a proclamation recognizing Bruce Morgan as the Citizen of the Year.

Followed by a brief reception.

Town Clerk Amber Brown conducted a roll call

Commission Members Present

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

Staff Members Present

Town Manager Elizabeth Mascaro
Town Attorney Clifford Repperger
Building Official Robert Bitgood
Police Chief Melanie Griswold
Fire Chief Gavin Brown
Public Works Director Tom Davis
Town Clerk Amber Brown

7. Finance/Budget Report

Vice Mayor Joyce Barton made a motion to accept the finance report as presented; Commissioner Corey Runte seconded; Motion carried 5-0.

8. Department and Board/Committee Reports

- A. Public Works Department

Public Works Director Tom Davis spoke about the base of the Town Hall sign in front of the Community Center fell off so it will be stuccoed. He has received good feedback about the boardwalk.

Mayor Wyatt Hoover spoke about parking funds help pay for upgrades in the parks.

B. Building Department

Building Official Robert Bitgood spoke about the building department doing well with one new home and 48 permits issued.

C. Code Enforcement

Town Manager Elizabeth Mascaro spoke about all of the open violations have been addressed.

Building Official Robert Bitgood spoke about red tags that become code violations will be going in front of the Special Magistrate.

D. Fire Department

Fire Chief Gavin Brown spoke about teaching a lot of community classes recently including CPR and Stop the Bleed.

E. Police Department

Police Chief Melanie Griswold spoke about doing beach patrol through August, Officer Sullivan is at SRO training, received emails and calls from residents about people speeding and passing on Riverside Dr, reviewed the speed trailer data from Riverside Dr. Strongly believes the stop signs on Riverside Dr will reduce the amount of traffic on Riverside, minimize the speeding and increase the safety for the pedestrians and bicyclists.

F. Town Clerk

No additions

9. Public Comment (Non-Agenda Items)

After being acknowledged by the 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.

Allen Waters
312 Sixth Ave

Allen Waters commended Tom Davis and the Public Works Department on their great work over the years. Stop signs are for traffic control not for speeding. Focus more on enforcement.

Jennifer Ottomanelli
510 Avenue A

Jennifer Ottomanelli spoke against the new stop signs on Riverside Dr and read part of the Uniform Traffic Control Manual which states stop signs are not appropriate for traffic control.

Haley Conrad
2011 Oak St

Haley Conrad spoke against the new stop signs on Riverside Dr. and would like to pursue other options.

Jack Byrd
3685 Park Way Drive

Jack Byrd spoke about last year he proposed placing mental health signs in Melbourne Beach. Over 600 people have visited the links that were put out on the signs, and they received a detailed email from an individual stating the information was just what he needed. He presented an Eagle Mentor award to Mayor Wyatt Hoover.

Paula Panton
809 Riverside Dr

Paula Panton spoke against the new stop signs on Riverside Dr, and how flow problems can be a point of danger and a nuisance.

Jane Waters
312 Sixth Ave

Jane Waters spoke about the stop signs that happened so quickly so what is going to be next? When will the residents get a say?

Olivia Conrad
2011 Oak St

Olivia Conrad asked who the discussions were with about the stop signs

Police Chief Melanie Griswold spoke about the Town department heads being involved.

Mary Weerts
400 Driftwood

Mary Weerts spoke about being in favor of the new stop signs on Riverside Dr, and that there should be one on driftwood.

Catie Knotts
223 Sixth Ave

Catie Knotts spoke against the new stop signs on Riverside Dr, never sees speeding on that stretch of road that now has two stop signs. Would like to see other options.

Jesse O'Toole
403 Andrews Dr

Jesse O'Toole spoke against the stop signs on Riverside Dr.

Mayor Wyatt Hoover spoke about appreciating resident feedback. Will continue to evaluate the situation.

Commissioner Corey Runte spoke about where to put a stop sign does not need to go to the Commission. That can be handled by the Police Chief whose priority is safety. As a Commission, they need to do what is best for all of the residents. Nothing is ever permanent, and Riverside Dr is in the process of being repaved so any solutions will be part of that project.

The audio recorder stopped working, so a secondary recorder was set up.

10. Public Hearings/Special Orders

11. Unfinished Business

12. New Business

- A. Consideration of adding a designated bike lane along Riverside Drive in conjunction with the re-pavement project.

Commissioner Marivi Walker spoke about how adding a bike lane might help slow down traffic and provide a designated place for bicyclists.

Commissioner Corey Runte spoke about what the re-pavement process will entail.

Vice Mayor Joyce Barton spoke in favor of exploring the option of adding a bike lane.

Amy Rickman
303 Sunset

Amy Rickman spoke about how a bike lane on Riverside would be fabulous.

Paula Panton
809 Riverside Dr

Paula Panton asked how far the bike lane would go. Loves the idea of a bike land, but is concerned about the safety aspect.

Mayor Wyatt Hoover spoke about this item would be to explore the option of having a bike lane, and at most it would go to the Town limits.

Commissioner Marivi Walker made a motion to include a discussion of a designated bike lane on the Riverside Dr repaving project; Vice Mayor Joyce Barton seconded; Motion carried 5-0.

B. Consideration of mold cleanup in the Community Center.

Public Works Director Tom Davis spoke about issues that have caused mold to grow in the Community Center. Spoke about adding a way to lock the thermostat and pull bars to automatically close the doors.

Mayor Wyatt Hoover spoke about adding language to the application about keeping the security deposit if doors are propped open for long periods.

Further discussion ensued

Vice Mayor Joyce Barton made a motion to proceed with the mold cleanup proposal from Pure Maintenance of Florida for the Community Center in the amount of \$3,850.00; Commissioner Marivi Walker seconded; Motion carried 5-0.

C. Consideration of a request to amend the Binding Lot Agreement for Djon's and give consent to the Town Attorney to legally amend the agreement.

Town Attorney Clifford Repperger spoke about how the Town entered into an agreement in 1995 with Djon for the expansion of the seating of the restaurant Djon's. As a condition of that expanded seating the restaurant was required to bind lot 20 with 26 parking spaces. The restaurant is on lot 18 and Djon has now purchased lot 19 which is adjacent to the restaurant. The applicant would like to amend the binding lot agreement to move the parking from lot 20 to lot 19. If the Commission is in favor of swapping the parking area then the agreement would need to be amended and noticed. Town Attorney Clifford Repperger asked for the intent from the Commission and approval for the agreement to be amended.

Commissioner Sherri Quarrie asked about what zone each lot is.

Town Attorney Clifford Repperger spoke about to the best of his knowledge all three of the lots being in zone 8B.

Commissioner Marivi Walker asked what they plan to do with the lot that is currently used for parking. The new parking lot would need the buildings torn down to add a parking lot to it. Can the Town stipulate what surface the parking lot will be? What is going to happen on the current parking lot?

Town Attorney Clifford Repperger spoke about the details not being disclosed about the plans for the current parking lot, but there was a discussion of putting duplexes.

Building Official Robert Bitgood spoke about how they have already brought up underground water retention for the new lot. No matter what surface is put there, water retention is still required.

Commissioner Corey Runte spoke about it making sense. No issues moving forward with this.

Town Manager Elizabeth Mascaro spoke about not allowing Djon to have both lots as parking lots.

Commissioner Sherri Quarrie asked about the 10-foot distance in the drawing, and a block wall separating the residential homes.

Building Official Robert Bitgood spoke about that being a buffer area on the proposed plan, and the wall would be discussed during the plan review process.

Mayor Wyatt Hoover spoke about collecting the deposit beforehand to cover any Town expenses.

Paula Panton
809 Riverside Dr

Paula Panton spoke about Djon's needing more parking. They have cars everywhere, so will this help that?

Mayor Wyatt Hoover spoke about this would maintain the amount of parking, but move it next to the business.

Haley Conrad
2011 Oak St

Haley Conrad asked if this would allow the restaurant to increase seating.

Mayor Wyatt Hoover spoke about how this would not expand the restaurant.

Catie Knotts
223 Sixth Ave

Catie Knotts asked how Djon is so concerned about the beautification along Ocean Ave, but allows Sands to be the way it is.

Commissioner Corey Runte made a motion to approve and allow the Town Attorney and Town Staff to work and negotiate on amending the binding lot agreement with Djon's by giving full consent to legally amend the agreement as presented with the \$5,000.00 deposit prior to starting; Commissioner Marivi Walker seconded; Motion carried 5-0.

D. Consideration of creating a Veterans Memorial Park.

Public Works Director Tom Davis spoke about the only thing the Town currently has is a little monument by the flag pole, so he would like to put a Veterans Memorial at Circle Park to show the appreciation.

Mayor Wyatt Hoover asked if that area was the best spot for it.

Public Works Director Tom Davis spoke about picking that area because it is a nice big open area.

Commissioner Marivi Walker spoke about being in favor of it because it is a heavily trafficked area with a good open area. Keep in mind the residents with regard to the flag pole which would require a light.

Commissioner Corey Runte spoke about being in favor of it, just make sure the residents are notified when a workshop is scheduled.

Vice Mayor Joyce Barton spoke about it being nice to be able to have an area to have an event for veterans.

Town Manager Elizabeth Mascaro spoke about the Parks Board has asked for a place to hold a veterans memorial event. Among town hall staff and family, 98 people have served.

Amy Rickman
303 Sunset

Amy Rickman spoke about this being a great idea.

Hayley Conrad
2011 Oak

Hayley Conrad spoke about how the Parks Board would like to be involved in the planning of the park and any events.

Vice Mayor Joyce Barton made a motion to approve with proceeding to plan and create Veterans Park at Circle Park; Commissioner Marivi Walker seconded; Motion carried 5-0.

13. Administrative Reports

A. Town Attorney

No additions

B. Town Manager

Town Manager Elizabeth Mascaro spoke about being approached by the Girl Scouts to plant a succulent garden at Triangle Park. That area has no power or water. Commissioner Sherri Quarrie spoke about not being in favor of any cactus, or plants with thorns.

14. Commission Reports

15. Task List

Updated:

Parking Stickers – Town Manager Elizabeth Mascaro provided two starter drafts, but it is still a work in progress – August

S.E.A Project – Town Manager Elizabeth Mascaro received drawings from Bowman, ready to schedule a workshop - August

Live Streaming – Town Clerk Amber Brown received two quotes, waiting on three more – September

Sixth Ave Boat Ramp – Mayor Hoover spoke about the Stephens put in a dock that would be higher than what the Town would and it is already getting destroyed from the wave action, so if the Town put in a small dock it would not last long.

16. Public Comment

Paula Panton
809 Riverside Dr

Paula asked about the dock, and spoke about the material her dock is made out of is great and allows the water to go through it, and there is a more heavy-duty commercial grade from what she has.

Dan Brunger
400 Sixth Ave

Dan Brunger spoke about appreciating the Town taking care of the issue he had. A couple of weeks ago there was a leak on the City of Melbourne side and got it fixed.

17. Adjournment

Commissioner Corey Runte moved to adjourn; Commissioner Marivi Walker seconded, Motion carried 5-0.

Meeting adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

ATTEST:



Wyatt Hoover, Mayor



Amber Brown, Town Clerk



