

# **Town of Melbourne Beach**

## **REGULAR TOWN COMMISSION MEETING March 15, 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 Attorney Cliff Repperger  
Finance Manager Jennifer Kerr  
Building Official Robert Bitgood  
Fire Chief Gavin Brown  
Police Chief Melanie Griswold  
Public Works Director Tom Davis  
Town Clerk Amber Brown

## **1. Call to Order**

Vice Mayor Joyce Barton called the meeting to order at 6:00 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

### **Commission Members Absent**

Mayor Wyatt Hoover

### **Staff Members Present**

Town Manager Elizabeth Mascaro  
Town Attorney Clifford Repperger  
Building Official Robert Bitgood  
Public Works Foreman Sean Hasner  
Fire Chief Gavin Brown  
Public Works Director Tom Davis  
Town Clerk Amber Brown

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

Vice Mayor Joyce Barton led the Pledge of Allegiance

## **~~4. Public Comments~~**

Public Comment was moved to item 8 of the agenda

## **5. Approval of the Agenda**

Vice Mayor Joyce Barton spoke about changing the order of the agenda to the following and taking the proclamations out of new business and having them as a separate category and correcting the address on the Consent Agenda Item B to 401 Atlantic St.

- Approval of Agenda
- Proclamations
- Consent Agenda
- Public Comment
- Public Hearings
- New Business
- Staff Reports
- Commission Comments
- Action Items

**Corey Runte made a motion to approve the agenda as proposed; Commissioner Marivi Walker seconded; Motion carried 4-0.**

## **6. Proclamations**

- A. Consideration of Proclamation recognizing January 2023 as National Human Trafficking Awareness and Prevention Month

Vice Mayor Joyce Barton presented a Proclamation recognizing January 2023 as National Human Trafficking Awareness and Prevention Month.

- B. Consideration of Proclamation recognizing April 2023 as Water Conservation Month

Vice Mayor Joyce Barton presented a Proclamation recognizing April 2023 as Water Conservation Month.

## **7. Consent Agenda**

- A. Approval of the Regular Town Commission Meeting Minutes February 15, 2023
- B. Approval of the site plan for ~~410~~ 401 Atlantic St – Garage addition
- C. Approval of the site plan for 214 Surf Rd – Building addition
- D. Approval of the site plan for 210 Second Ave – Cabana accessory structure
- E. Approval of the site plan for 320 Avenue A – Garage accessory structure

Commissioner Sherri Quarrie spoke about an issue with 320 Avenue A regarding a vehicle being able to access the garage due to the steps from the primary structure.

**Commissioner Sherri Quarrie moved to approve the Consent Agenda with a condition specific to Item E 320 Avenue A that the steps do not infringe upon the car egress; Commissioner Marivi Walker seconded; Motion carried 4-0.**

## **8. 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.

Public Comment was moved to after the consent agenda.

***Erica Kesilman  
502 Banyan Way***

*Erica Kesilman spoke about being here on behalf of the conscious learners group that meets in Ryckman Park. The group adopted the area in front of the Community Center to contribute to the beautification of the park. Recently they were informed that the area they adopted is being taken back by the Town. They are here to get more clarity on why and how they can continue to give back to the community. Erica provided several letters that the kids in the group made.*

Town Manager Elizabeth Mascaro spoke about the Town hiring a landscaper and he was directed to take over the front area, but there are other areas that can be adopted. The areas around Town Hall will be taken care of by the landscape employee.

**Brian Mackie**  
**2203 Atlantic St**

*Brian Mackie spoke about the shooting that took place at Spessard Holland Beach Park. This was a life safety event and he is frightened and upset and desperate. Even though the partygoers accessed the beach from Spessard Holland North they set up sun canopies, generators, a sound system, and large speakers in front of the Breakers inside Town limits. There were hundreds of kids there. He was on the beach and could smell hashish, marijuana, and beer and would have been there during the shooting if he didn't decide to go to dinner. There were cars parked all over the grass, cars racing down the road with kids hanging out the windows. He spoke with an officer on a quad watching the party and asked him to do something to stop the noise and kids running all over the dunes and doing their business in the dunes and the officer said there was nothing he can do. Brian Mackie asked to please coordinate with the Brevard County Council and the Brevard County Sheriff's so an incident like this never happens to them again.*

**Amy Rickman**  
**303 Sunset**

*Amy Rickman spoke about being present with Karen Lucas and Sheryl Davis on behalf of the Daughters of the American Revolution about their request to place a sign at the First Ave beach access. They spoke about the sign being about dune conservation so they would like it near the dune rather than in a kiosk. Since they originally requested this there have been two new signs put up at the First Ave Beach Access. One says please keep off the dune.*

Commissioner Corey Runte spoke about making a strong effort about the number of signs because of the complaints from residents and guests about the quantity of public and private signs around town. Residents might be very sensitive to having non-municipal signage around public parks and beaches.

**Amy Cunningham**  
**2203 Atlantic St**

*Amy Cunningham spoke about the party last weekend that overflowed into the Town of Melbourne Beach. She is very appreciative of our Police, but asked as residents what they can do to get ahead of things like this. When the first shot happened a swarm of kids ran to their building knocking on doors.*

**Todd Kasik**  
**2007 Neptune**

*Todd Kasik spoke about Oak Street has become a zoo. The volume of traffic, speed, and type of traffic. Try to keep people on A1A, put up a sign that says no through traffic or residents only. Oak Street used to be a good speed trap, but it's not any more he would like it to be. Nature of the traffic – construction trucks and commercial vehicles barreling down Oak Street. He asked for more signage and more law enforcement.*

Commissioner Corey Runte spoke about having the same concerns but being surprised by the speed trailer data which shows the average speed was less than the speed limit.

**Pat Zabinski**  
**1500 Pine**

*Pat Zabinski spoke about making Second through Sixth Ave beach accesses residents only because residents go down there and there is no parking.*

## **9. Public Hearing**

### **A. Second reading of proposed Ordinance 2023-01 – Landscaping and Trees Section 9A and Fences and Walls 7A-53 and 7A-58**

Town Attorney Clifford Repperger – second reading of Ordinance 2023-01

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF MELBOURNE BEACH, BREVARD COUNTY, FLORIDA, AMENDING; APPENDIX “A” OF THE TOWN CODE OF ORDINANCES OF MELBOURNE BEACH, THE LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE; AMENDING CHAPTER 9A REGARDING LANDSCAPING AND TREES; SPECIFICALLY AMENDING SECTION 9A-4, PERMIT REQUIRED FOR CUTTING DOWN TREE; SPECIFICALLY AMENDING SECTION 9A-5, APPLICATION FOR PERMIT; REVIEW OF APPLICATION; SPECIFICALLY AMENDING SECTION 9A-6, ON-SITE INSPECTION; SPECIFICALLY AMENDING SECTION 9A-7, MINIMUM TREE PLANTINGS; SPECIFICALLY AMENDING SECTION 9A-10, EXCEPTIONS; SPECIFICALLY AMENDING SECTION 9A-12, PENALTY; AMENDING ARTICLE IV, CHAPTER 7A, SUPPLEMENTARY DISTRICT REGULATIONS; SPECIFICALLY AMENDING SECTION 7A-53, FENCES AND WALLS; SPECIFICALLY AMENDING SECTION 7A-58, VISION CLEARANCE AT CORNERS; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY/INTERPRETATION CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF CONFLICTING ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND PROVIDING AN ADOPTION SCHEDULE.**

Vice Mayor Joyce Barton spoke about the background of this ordinance.

Town Attorney Clifford Repperger spoke about the changes being made after the first reading are highlighted in yellow. There are four recommendations from the planning and zoning deliberations that are included in the agenda memo but are not included in the Ordinance that is in the agenda packet. The recommendations are:

- Amend proposed Section 9A-7 (c) to remove the sentence, “Any trees that are removed for new construction shall be replaced by the same or similar species.”
- Amend the Ordinance to include an amendment to Section 1A-3 which would provide a definition of “Tree Density” based on the measure of trees per square foot of a lot’s pervious area.
- Amend proposed Section 9A-12, Penalty, to remove the phrase “or similar trees.”

- Amend Section 7A-53 (9) to require the last 25 feet of any fences or walls abutting the waterfront or beach to be reduced in height from six (6) feet to four (4) feet to protect neighboring riparian site lines.

Commissioner Corey Runte spoke about the first three recommendations were considered after being brought up at the first reading of the ordinance, and the last recommendation is not applicable.

**Commissioner Corey Runte moved to approve the second reading of proposed Ordinance 2023-01 Landscaping and Trees Section 9A and Fences and Walls 7A-53 and 7A-58 as presented; Commissioner Sherri Quarrie seconded; Motion carried 4-0.**

B. Second reading of proposed Ordinance 2023-02 – Second Kitchens

Town Attorney Clifford Repperger – second reading of Ordinance 2023-02

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF MELBOURNE BEACH, BREVARD COUNTY, FLORIDA, AMENDING; APPENDIX “A” OF THE TOWN CODE OF ORDINANCES OF MELBOURNE BEACH, THE LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE; AMENDING SECTION 1A-3 TO ADD THE DEFINITION FOR KITCHEN OR KITCHEN FACILITY; AMENDING CHAPTER 7A REGARDING SECOND KITCHENS; SPECIFICALLY AMENDING SECTION 7A-31, SECTION 7A-32, AND SECTION 7A-33 TO PERMIT SECOND KITCHENS IN 1-RS, 2-RS, AND 3-RS ZONING DISTRICTS; CREATING SECTION 7A-72 TO PROVIDE SUPPLEMENTARY DISTRICT REGULATIONS FOR SECOND KITCHENS IN SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICTS; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY/INTERPRETATION CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF CONFLICTING ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND PROVIDING AN ADOPTION SCHEDULE.**

***Roger Newell  
506 Colony***

*Roger spoke about allowing a second kitchen when we have so many illegal, unlicensed, uninspected short-term rentals in this Town is a disaster. Owners that live elsewhere and claim no responsibility. Understands a lot of people’s hands are tied because of the State, but if this Town doesn’t show residents they are serious about keeping this little Town wonderful we are in big trouble. Allowing a second kitchen for a multigenerational family then they move out and the next owner could turn it into a multiple-family rental.*

Vice Mayor Joyce Barton spoke about this not being for multiple families. It is for multigenerational families.

Commissioner Corey Runte spoke about this being worked on for months and those concerns were seriously thought about and taken into consideration. There are provisions in this Ordinance such as the requirement to have a homestead exemption.

Vice Mayor Joyce Barton spoke about the background history of this Ordinance.

Town Attorney Clifford Repperger spoke about there being a number of conditions that are designed to limit rentals such as the requirement to maintain a homestead exemption. At the first reading to the Planning and Zoning Board, one concern that was brought up was if the second kitchen would change from a single-family to a multifamily. The Town Commission requested the Town Planner review the concern, so the Ordinance with the Town Planners' response was brought back to the Planning and Zoning Board which approved the Ordinance with a 3-2 vote. The Town Planner Corey O'Gorman did not feel it would change a single-family dwelling to a multifamily.

**Commissioner Corey Runte moved to approve the second reading of the proposed Ordinance 2023-02 for second kitchens; Commissioner Marivi Walker seconded; Motion carried 4-0.**

## **10. Old Business**

## **11. New Business**

New Business Items A and B were moved to Item 6 on the agenda

~~A. Consideration of Proclamation recognizing January 2023 as National Human Trafficking Awareness and Prevention Month~~

~~B. New Business Item A was moved to follow the approval of the agenda, before the consent agenda.~~

C. Consideration of a special event permit application

Town Manager Elizabeth Mascaro spoke about Patrick Zabinski wanting to hold a memorial service in the Park for his brother. Due to the number of possible attendees, it surpasses the threshold for a facility rental so it would require a special event permit.

Patrick Zabinski spoke about turning in all of the required paperwork and insurance, ordering additional trash cans, and anything else they need to do they will.

**Commissioner Corey Runte moved to accept the special event permit application for the Zabinski Family as presented; Commissioner Marivi Walker seconded; Motion carried 4-0.**

D. Consideration of the installation of a Clean-Up Station at Ocean Park

Town Manager Elizabeth Mascaro spoke about receiving an email from Casie Farrell asking if they could install a Clean-Up Station at Ocean Park consisting of a post with buckets.

Commissioner Corey Runte spoke about being open to the idea, but our goal is to reduce sign pollution, but it would serve a physical purpose to collect physical pollution.

Vice Mayor Joyce Barton spoke about not liking how it looks and the wind would blow the buckets away.

Commissioner Sherri Quarrie spoke about welcoming the teens to come to our beaches and be in charge of collecting the garbage rather than leaving it up to the residents. Applaud the effort, but we could use their energy in a different way.

Commissioner Marivi Walker spoke about not being in favor of it as presented.

E. Consider approving the new contract for Computer Experts

Town Manager Elizabeth Mascaro spoke about receiving an updated contract from Computer Experts which has not been updated since May 2018. At that time there were 36 computing devices that Computer Experts were responsible for, now we have 64. They have been extremely helpful to us. The increase would be \$823 per month which equates to an annual increase from 2018 to 2023 of \$206.00 per year for the past 4 years.

Vice Mayor Joyce Barton spoke about Computer Experts being very helpful and that cyber security is a huge threat these days.

Commissioner Sherri Quarrie spoke about almost doubling our devices, but they are not doubling the fees so the dollar per device is less now.

Commissioner Corey Runte spoke about having a good experience with them, and the dollar per device did in fact decrease from \$49.00 to \$36.00 per device, so he is in favor of the contract renewal.

**Commissioner Sherri Quarrie made a motion to renew the contract with Computer Experts based on the contract presented; Commissioner Marivi Walker seconded; Motion carried 4-0.**

F. Consideration of request for reduction of code enforcement fine CEB 2019-CE-054

Town Attorney Clifford Repperger spoke about the code enforcement case from December 5, 2019, for the installation of a fence at 419 Ocean Unit #203 without a permit. The Code Enforcement Board approved a \$25.00 per day fine which started to accrue on January 5, 2020, until December 5, 2022. The total fine amount is \$26,675.00. On March 1<sup>st</sup> the Town received a Request for Reduction or Waiver of Fine amount. Because this case was first heard by the Code Enforcement Board prior to the transition to the Special Magistrate it was appropriate to bring the request directly to the Town Commission.

Dennis Fairbanks spoke about being the Attorney representing Jorge and Manuel Triana the owners of the property. The fine is for failure to obtain a permit for a



very small fence. The fine has bloomed from \$25.00 per day to \$26,000.00. His clients say they were unaware of the violation because there was a tenant there that installed the fence and did not inform them that this was going on. Consider the various factors and put the fine into context. They became aware of the violation in December 2022 when there was a lien search done and this came up. At that point, they immediately removed the violating fence which cost about \$100.00. The certified mail was signed for by his wife and she did not give him the mail. There are numerous factors and this is a very small and somewhat insignificant violation. They weren't aware that this little fence would become a problem. As soon as they became aware they acted on it immediately. They ask the Commission to consider what their affidavit and statement says and what they say is plausible. Why would they want to allow the \$25.00 per day fine to go on for two years when they could have fixed the issue for \$100.00. Asked that the fine be reduced to something reasonable rather than punitive.

Vice Mayor Joyce Barton asked about when the owners become aware of the issue and how.

Dennis Fairbanks spoke about the owners becoming aware when there was a lien search done in December 2022 on another unit and this lien came up and within a week the fence was taken down. The certified letter was signed by his wife and Mr. Triana says he never received it.

Commissioner Sherri Quarrie spoke about when they found out about the lien why wasn't the answer to pay the lien to make it go away. The only way to remove a lien is to pay it. The Town did everything it could to notify the LLC. She is not in favor of doing this when an LLC is coming to our Town to make a profit which is welcomed, but then to ask the Town to reduce the fee, so it doesn't cut into their profit. No matter what type of fence was put in it violated the building code and was assessed a fine based on the fine structure which wasn't paid for three years.

Dennis Fairbanks spoke about the placement of the fence did not violate the code it just violated the code for not having a permit. He asked what expenses the Town incurred related to this violation. Is the purpose to be punitive or to encourage people to follow the rules? Given the small nature of this violation, he asked that the Town Commission consider reducing the fine.

Commissioner Corey Runte asked how many units they own. As a landlord that visits the property multiple times a month did they ask the tenant if they got permission to install the fence or ask to see the building permit. Has the same tenant lived there for the three years that the fine was accruing?

Manuel Triana spoke about owning 10 units and the other 18 units are private owners and they have never had any problems with permits for 18 years. They thought a fence of less than four feet would not require a permit. Had they known the fence needed a permit they would not have allowed the \$25.00 per day fine to go on. The notice was posted on the door of the unit and the tenant took it down. The tenant in that unit has been the same for three years. Had they known about the violation they would have told the tenant to take the fence out.

Jorge Triana spoke about if he saw the fine initially they would have fixed it immediately to avoid the fine.

Commissioner Corey Runte asked about how much the Town is in for this case.

Town Attorney Clifford Repperger spoke about the Town being roughly \$2,500.00 in. The ultimate goal of code enforcement is to get compliance not to be punitive. A \$25.00 per day fine is reasonable, the notice was done correctly, but this is not a life safety situation. Every case is different and has its own set of facts and should be looked at on its own merit. It is very common in other jurisdictions to hear and consider reductions on fine amounts. It is completely up to the Town Commission on what they would like to do and determine what a reasonable fine is.

Commissioner Marivi Walker spoke about not liking the 26 thousand dollar fine, but she does not like the precedence it would set.

Vice Mayor Joyce Barton spoke about there being some degree of negligence and poor management.

Commissioner Sherri Quarrie spoke about due to the climate of this Town there are a lot of LLC owners here and the precedence it would set.

Mr. Triana spoke about not knowing a little fence would need a permit.

**Commissioner Sherri Quarrie made a motion to let the fine stand;**

**Motion failed for lack of a second**

**Commissioner Marivi Walker made a motion to allow the fine to be reduced to something more reasonable based on the facts as outlined in the Request for Reduction and the Request for Reduction Worksheet to \$10,000.00;**

Commissioner Corey Runte spoke about this being difficult because this is total negligence or lack of communication. As a landlord, it is your responsibility. The fact that his wife opened the letter and didn't tell him about it is not the Town's problem. Three years is a long time and he is not in favor of any fine reduction greater than 25%.

**Commissioner Corey Runte seconded the motion with an amendment of a max reduction of 25% for a fine amount of \$20,006.25; Commissioner Marivi Walker approved the amendment to her motion; Motion carried 3-1 with Commissioner Sherri Quarrie dissenting.**

## **12. Staff Reports**

### **A. Town Attorney Report**

Town Attorney Clifford Repperger spoke about the increased density issue related to south beaches that was been brought up at the last Town Commission Workshop

which is only for one property that is 1.7 acres and they wanted to build an additional residential unit.

**Commissioner Corey Runte made a motion to approve Mayor Hoover signing a letter of support declining any Comp Plan amendments or code changes proposed by the County, Commissioner Marivi Walker seconded, motion carried 4-0**

B. Town Manager Report

Town Manager Elizabeth Mascaro spoke about the purchase of dangerous rip current signs for each crossover due to the number of drownings and near drownings in the area which you will have to walk to the left or right of the sign to go down to the beach. Brevard County is in charge of all of the lifeguards so Fire Chief Gavin Brown has been working with them and the other beachside fire departments.

Fire Chief Gavin Brown spoke about meeting with the other beachside agencies to see what can be done. They are looking into year-round lifeguards. He is working with the lifeguards in our zone to put a sign up during the day at the water line to mark the standing rip currents. He is speaking with the lifeguards about the feasibility of lifeguards doing preventative measures by driving up and down the beaches to educate the public. The lifeguards throughout the state are critically understaffed, and Brevard County has forgone staffing Spessard Holland South in order to staff Ocean Ave. The beachside agencies are banning together for coverage, so Melbourne Beach is now going to cover from the Pineda to the inlet. There is another big meeting coming up that will include the police. Prevention is what is needed, so they are looking at different ideas such as beach patrols that educate the public but don't enter the water. There was also a comment about having the volunteers be out there full-time, and the issue is that the volunteer firefighters have full-time jobs to support themselves so to staff the beach Monday through Friday would be extremely challenging. When there are incidents like this past Friday's drowning there were eight members that left their paying jobs to be out there for seven hours searching. That's the level of commitment the volunteers have that they are willing to do that, but to commit to taking time off of work on regular bases would not be sustainable. That being said they have in the past had volunteers go out at the lifeguards' request if there is a day that is especially dangerous. There was a weekend when the conditions were extreme and they did have volunteers go out and staff the beach with the ATV and Jet Ski.

Town Manager Elizabeth Mascaro spoke about there being quite a bit of money from Ocean Ave Parking rollover from last year; the Town could pay people to do beach patrols such as Surf Riders. They wouldn't go out to rescue anyone, but they would be familiar with the water and be able to recognize dangerous situations.

Vice Mayor Joyce Barton spoke about liking the idea of a beach ranger and having them be identified as such so they are not confused as lifeguards.

Fire Chief Gavin Brown spoke about the beach rangers should not be using the Police or Fire ATVs, so people do not confuse them with emergency responders.

Commissioner Corey Runte spoke about liking the approach, but does not want to lose sight that it is the County's responsibility and the County Commission needs to step up. If lifeguards could make a good living wage without needing to go to college more people would do it. The County gets the tourism bed night tax and gets to decide how it's spent.

Fire Chief Gavin Brown spoke about looking into the bed tax and there is something in the statute that prevents the County from spending it on personnel. The cost of operating the Ocean Ave tower year-round would be roughly \$200,000 to \$250,000. That cost is for two lifeguards there seven days a week and an ATV with one supervisor going back and forth along Melbourne Beach. Cocoa Beach already has a Beach Ranger program, and Satellite Beach is looking into it. The best solution is year-round lifeguards.

Commissioner Sherri Quarrie asked Fire Chief Gavin Brown to elaborate on the collaboration with FWC and the other law enforcement agencies, and if there would be a way for the beach ranger to be proactive with situations like the party that the Breakers residents spoke about.

Fire Chief Gavin Brown spoke about when incidents like these happen there are a lot of different agencies that are involved and they all have different ways of communication. Police and Fire have different radios or different channels they communicate on. The beach ranger would not be there to enforce things, but they can notify the police department.

Town Manager Elizabeth Mascaro spoke about the people in the area needing to call 911 when they feel a situation is escalating. The Town can also increase the parking fee at Ocean Park to offset expenses to make sure the people that are there are safe.

Fire Chief Gavin Brown spoke about the idea of the Commission writing a formal letter to the County Commissioners.

#### C. Town Clerk Report

No additions

#### D. Departmental Reports

##### 1. Building Department

Building Official Robert Bitgood spoke about the building department being busy and working on more public education.

##### 2. Code Enforcement

Building Official Robert Bitgood spoke about having interviews, but the position is still open.

3. Public Works Department

Public Works Director Tom Davis spoke about the street signs being about 95% installed. The old post office renovations are getting close. He and the Town Manager have planned a walking route behind the pavilions and put about 50% of the coquina rock down. Finished building a free book box that is a miniature Town Hall.

Vice Mayor Joyce Barton spoke about the Osprey nest that FPL knocked down. She has a contact that builds platforms for Osprey.

4. Police Department

No additions

5. Fire Department

No additions

6. Finance Department

**Commissioner Corey Runte made a motion to approve the finance report as presented; Commissioner Marivi Walker seconded; Motion carried 4-0.**

**13. Town Commission Comments**

A. General Comments

Commissioner Corey Runte asked about the award Chief Melanie Griswold received.

Town Manager Elizabeth Mascaro spoke about Senator Debbie Mayfield recognizing Chief Griswold for her 20-plus years of service in Law Enforcement.

Vice Mayor Joyce Barton spoke about Commissioner Corey Runte being on the front cover of the Melbourne Beach magazine. Regarding Space Coast League of Cities, going into advocacy time. She spoke about SB170 which refers to re-advertisement costs. The priorities are short-term rentals, low-impact development, coastal control measures, complete streets, home rule, affordable housing, insurance crisis, hardening of utilities, cyber security, Indian River Lagoon funding, etc. From Transportation and Planning Organization, the bright line is going to start coming through. The A1A improvements are on schedule.

Town Attorney Clifford Repperger spoke about SB170 and a case where a municipality passed an ordinance on second reading. They advertised for the initial second reading date and at the meeting, they continued the hearing to the

next meeting. They did not re-advertise the new date. Years later a resident contested the ordinance and the court decided that based on the language that you are required to notice the second reading since they didn't notice the new meeting date the passing of that ordinance was invalid. This bill is to fix this.

Building Official Robert Bitgood spoke about bills that will probably pass that will affect the building department as far as how much time the building department has to do plan review. Currently, once the building department has all of the paperwork they have thirty days to review the permit. If the bill passes the building department will only have one to three days to review it. If it does not get reviewed in time then it is considered issued and the permit fees are reduced.

Commissioner Sherri Quarrie spoke about the massive seaweed coming this way and the possibility of using the tractor.

Town Manager Elizabeth Mascaro spoke about it being turtle season so no equipment can be on the beach.

#### B. Review of Commission Action Item List

##### **Closed**

- **DAR Sign Placement** – Town Manager Elizabeth Mascaro spoke about putting the rotary sign and DAR sign in the kiosk in Ryckman Park – Closed
- **Isolate Dunes** - Closed

##### **Updated**

- **Order of Agenda** – Vice Mayor Joyce Barton spoke about different options to organize the agenda - April
- **Town Newsletter** – Town Clerk Amber Brown spoke about having two quotes and waiting on two others. The first one is just under \$1,800 and the other is about \$1,400. Town Manager Elizabeth Mascaro spoke about the new employee having experience with doing newsletters, so she will be working on that - April
- **Sixth Ave Boat Ramp:** Put on the Town Commission Workshop
- **SEA Project** – Put on the Town Commission Workshop
- **Live Streaming** - Town Clerk Amber Brown spoke about reaching out to a couple of individuals that are familiar with audio/visual systems. One wanted to get a feel for the price range before he spends a bunch of time looking into products. The Commission decided to send this out for RFP.

- **Charging Stations** – Town Manager Elizabeth Mascaro spoke about meeting with James Moore who spoke about the medium speed charging stations have gone down in price to \$3,000.00. Get a proposal. - April

#### **14.Adjournment**

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

Meeting adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

**ATTEST:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Joyce Barton, Vice Mayor**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Amber Brown, Town Clerk**

