

# **Town of Melbourne Beach**

## **TOWN COMMISSION WORKSHOP**

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2021,  
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE SPECIAL  
TOWN COMMISSION MEETING AT 6:00 p.m.  
COMMUNITY CENTER, 509 OCEAN AVENUE**

### **MINUTES**

**Commission Members:**

Mayor Wyatt Hoover  
Vice Mayor Joyce D. Barton  
Commissioner Steve Walters  
Commissioner Sherrie Quarrie  
Commissioner Corey Runte

**Staff Members:**

Town Manager Elizabeth Mascaro  
Town Clerk Jennifer Torres

**1. Call to Order**

Mayor Hoover called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

**2. Roll Call**

Town Clerk Torres conducted Roll Call:

Commissioners Present:

Mayor Wyatt Hoover  
Vice Mayor Joyce D. Barton  
Commissioner Steve Walters  
Commissioner Sherrie Quarrie  
Commissioner Corey Runte

Staff Present:

Town Manager Elizabeth Mascaro  
Town Clerk Jennifer Torres

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

Conducted at earlier meeting.

**4. Public Comments**

**5. New Business**

- A. Discussion of the Town Hall employee holiday schedule – Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Town Clerk Torres previously introduced the idea of observing Martin Luther King Jr. Day as an official Town Holiday noting that Melbourne Beach was one of only two municipalities in the county where it was not observed.

Commissioner Walters noted that Martin Luther King Jr. Day is a service day and felt employees could provide a service to the Town by working, explaining that he felt residents suffer for it when employees have too many days off.

Vice Mayor Barton said the Commission could look at some other scenarios as to what day could be switched out with it. She noted that she understood the point of recognizing it officially and wanted to be sensitive to it and also did not want the Town to be one of the few that did not observe it. But she was concerned with Town Hall being closed too many days during that particular time of the year.

Commissioner Runte said he didn't have a problem with just adding it and allowing employees 12 holidays – instead of 11. He felt not observing the day could result in an easy lawsuit and felt it would be a good decision to observe it.

Commissioner Quarrie suggested taking away President's Day and replacing it with Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

Mayor Hoover said they should recognize the holiday in some way and suggested it may be more effective to recognize it by joining with the City of Melbourne to participate in their MLK Jr. Parade and engage in some sort of service activity. Staff would be paid to volunteer their time essentially.

Further discussion ensued related to increasing the number of staff holidays from 11 to 12, taking away a current holiday and making a switch, planning a service project, or allowing employees who want to observe the day to take a half-day to go volunteer at a place of their choosing and the remaining staff can keep Town Hall open.

Mayor Hoover suggested the Town Manager get input from the rest of the staff and come up with a cost analysis that would show how much financial impact adding an extra holiday would have. He noted that they would continue the discussion during the February 17, Regular Town Commission Meeting.

#### B. Fire Tax Briefing

Chief Brown went over a recent analysis of the stipend plan. He said its working and having the effect he wants it to. He is confident he can keep the numbers going and at this time there is no need to look at paid personnel. While it may be needed down the road, for now the current system is working well. He noted that the requirements went up and the department lost some dead weight but participation of membership as a whole has increased 49-percent.

Town Manager Mascaro said the department has more participation from Town residents than in the past with newer residents who are more involved and dedicated. She noted that the level of engagement and professionalism is so much more than it once was.

Chief Brown said part of his goal is to get the volunteers certified.

Commissioner Runte said he has heard a lot of great things and agreed that the numbers are impressive – especially during COVID. He told Chief Brown he was doing a great job and to keep up the good work.

#### C. Discuss and consider new patriotic decal the Police Department would like to display on police vehicles

Town Manager Mascaro presented a photo of a patriotic decal that the police department would like to display on their police vehicles. She explained that the image is “ghosted” meaning it can only be seen at certain angles and currently Florida Highway Patrol has them on their vehicles.

She went on to say that the cost for the decals is \$125 less than what the Town pays to affix the Town Logo on the vehicles. The plan would be to affix the new design to one car and then add it to any subsequent cars the Town purchases.

Some discussion took place over whether it was appropriate to have a modified version of the American Flag. The Commission agreed that as long as people can identify it as the American flag and the police department wants it - they would support it.

## **6. Adjournment**

### **Commissioner Quarrie moved to adjourn; Commissioner Runte seconded;**

Public Works Director Davis shared a short update on the current swale program, saying it was proceeding along very well.

Town Manager Mascaro gave an update on the Town's upcoming, planned involvement in providing COVID shots to the public, explaining that the Fire Department was coordinating with other beachside fire departments in a partnership between the municipalities to offer vaccinations. The timing and other specific details are still undetermined.

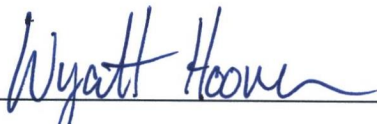
### **Motion carried 5-0.**

The meeting adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

**ATTEST:**

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J. Torres", written over a horizontal line.

**Jennifer Torres, Town Clerk**

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Wyatt Hoover", written over a horizontal line.  
**Wyatt Hoover, Mayor**