

# **Town of Melbourne Beach**

**TOWN COMMISSION WORKSHOP  
WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 6, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.  
MASNY ROOM – 507 OCEAN AVENUE**

## **MINUTES**

### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

**The Town Commission conducted a Town Commission Workshop  
on Wednesday November 6, 2019 in the Masny Room  
to address the items below.**

#### **Commission Members:**

Mayor Jim Simmons  
Vice Mayor Wyatt Hoover  
Commissioner Steve Walters  
Commissioner Sherrie Quarrie  
Commissioner Corey Runte

#### **Staff Members:**

Town Manager Elizabeth Mascaro  
Town Clerk Nancy Wilson

## **I. Call to Order – Led by Mayor Simmons**

Mayor Simmons called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

## **II. Roll Call**

Town Clerk Wilson conducted the roll call.

### Commissioners Present:

Mayor Jim Simmons

Vice Mayor Wyatt Hoover

Commissioner Steve Walters

Commissioner Sherri Quarrie

Commissioner Corey Runte

### Staff Present:

Town Manager Elizabeth Mascaro

Town Clerk Nancy Wilson

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

Led by Mayor Simmons

## **IV. Public Comment**

*Alan Ross*

*7437 South Highway A1A*

Mr. Ross wanted to talk about the Southern Squall special event sponsored by the Rotary Club that was approved for March 7, 2020. After hosting a meeting at his house where the event was discussed, he had some requests to make prior to compiling sponsorship packages. He would like to:

- 1) Replace previous beneficiaries with Gemini PTO
- 2) Change the Town beneficiary from Ryckman Park (playground equipment) to MBVFD
- 3) Allow signage to promote the event - yard signs and a banner similar to what is posted for Founder's Day

Mr. Ross said he'd like to have a good understanding what the deal is with Town. Last year, the Rotary Club paid for police services; they didn't pay for Public Works staff time or for the porta-potties. They are willing to pay for the police again and will be involved in meetings with Town staff. Mayor Simmons said there was a misunderstanding last year in the amount the Town was paid, the expenses were supposed to be paid before the money was divided. Mr. Ross said the Town was paid the 40% that was agreed to; he can prove it by providing a report to the Commission. The Mayor added that a Memorandum of Understanding would clear up any misunderstandings and everybody would be on the same page.

Regarding one of the beneficiaries being MBVFD, Inc., the Mayor said that the corporation could spend the money however they wanted and it doesn't necessarily get spent on equipment, stipends, etc.; it's their money and the Town doesn't get to decide how it is spent. However, if it was added to the Fire Department budget the Town could ensure that it is spent on something the Commission and Fire Department feel is worthwhile. Mr. Ross said he agreed but when he is engaging potential sponsors, they want to know specifically where the money will be spent instead of it just going into the General Fund. Vice Mayor Hoover

said the money could be given to the Town with the stipulation that it be dedicated to the Fire Department.

Town Manager Mascaro added that this is not a Town sponsored event. The Town made an exception last year for the Southern Squall event so we're setting a precedent by allowing events sponsored by outside entities to monopolize the Park. There was then some discussion about what criteria allows for the exclusive use of our parks other than by the Town. Also discussed was that there shouldn't be any expense to the Town for the event such as for porta-potties and staff time; special events not hosted by the Town aren't a good use of taxpayer money. At the end of the discussion, it was decided that the Town Manager would draft a formal agreement (MoU) so that there wouldn't be any misunderstandings about the Southern Squall event including that the Town will not expend any money. The MoU will be voted on at the November 20<sup>th</sup> RTCM.

## **V. New Business**

### **A. Discussion about the Town taking over the "Citizen of the Year" award program – Town Clerk (00:28:05)**

In March 2019, the Rotary Club asked the Town to take over the "Citizen of the Year" nomination and award program and the Commission decided to discuss the matter later in the year. Some research was conducted and it was found that in 2013, a resolution was passed that repealed both the "Citizen of the Year" and "Junior Citizen of the Year" programs in favor of periodic notice on an as needed basis for individual citizens of the community. As a result of the repeal, there were no awards granted in 2014 and 2015 but Rotary decided in 2016 to reinstitute the program.

Commissioner Quarrie said the program should be called the "Citizen of Special Recognition" for whatever time period is decided upon. Vice Mayor Hoover and Commissioner Runte both want a timeline and structure and not random selections. Mayor Simmons added that Commissioners, Board members and staff can nominate people so there shouldn't be a shortage of candidates.

*Frank Thomas*  
*606 Atlantic*

Mr. Thomas said the program was started by Chaplain Terry in 1983 on the first Founders Day. Both Mr. Thomas and Curtis Byrd were part of the group who selected nominees. Those nominees could be Town volunteers, firemen or people who had past accomplishments who were not previously recognized. During the last few years there has been a lack of interest but he'd like to see the program continue and have the Town be in charge of it, not the Rotary Club.

Mayor Simmons said the Commission, each Board and staff should nominate one person which will give them an ample pool of candidates from which to choose. A timeline and procedure should be drafted and given to the Commission, Board members and staff. Nominations will be due by February and the winner will be announced on Founders Day by Chairman of the Parks Board.

### **B. Discussion regarding beach access parking survey– Town Manager Mascaro (00:47:25)**



Town Manager Mascaro presented the Commission with an example of a possible survey to mail to the citizens and commented that the parking scenarios listed can be standalone issues. Included on the survey will be an explanation about why the Town is considering various parking options:

- Why is the Town considering paid parking at Ocean Park?
- Why is the Town considering limiting on-street parking in areas closest to crossover lots? (north of Ocean/east of A1A and south of Ocean/east of Orange)
- Why is the Town considering limiting parking to residents only at the crossovers?

Mayor Simmons said there should be a caveat about the parking options being considered individually such that if there is paid parking at Ocean Park, then resident only, permitted street parking should be mandatory. He wants residents to know how important the on-street parking issue is because there have been too many instances of non-residents parking on and trashing residents' lawns.

Many options for street, Ocean Park and crossover lot parking were discussed and included utilizing decals, a kiosk and permits/passes for guest and resident parking. Commissioner Walters said the administrative and enforcement costs will outweigh the amount the Town is likely to collect and he doesn't think the residents or business owners will be happy.

The Commission decided to address resident on-street parking first followed by crossover parking then Ocean Park kiosk parking. Commissioner Quarrie asked why parking at Ryckman Park is being addressed to which the Mayor answered that a private business is utilizing all the parking along the west end of Ocean Avenue. Commissioner Quarrie added that finances weren't included in the survey which is the most important factor. The Town needs to present to the residents what it costs to maintain Ocean Park and how the revenue from decals and parking fees could offset those expenses which would leave funds to address other issues in the Town. The Mayor commented that if the survey gets too complicated, they could just restrict on-street parking to residents only and forget about the other parking issues. There is no perfect solution because the number of cars can't be controlled. The business owners need to be surveyed and the questions on the survey need to be more comprehensive, not simply "yes" or "no". The survey needs work.

*David Wilkey*  
*504 Shannon*

Mr. Wilkey said the survey is skewed and the costs associated with implementation need to be explained. The cost of a kiosk, enforcement costs and administrative costs should be juxtaposed to potential income. He also asked if other solutions have been considered and what problems are going to be solved if the proposed parking options are implemented. The survey needs to be very clear before it's presented to the residents. Mr. Wilkey added that where he resides in the summer, the signage for parking is overwhelming and he hopes Melbourne Beach wouldn't make the same mistake.

The Commissioners all agreed that on-street parking should be addressed first and the next draft should include a breakdown of expenses and potential income. The updated draft survey will be presented at the November 20<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Other Items (Not on Agenda)


The Town Manager announced that Fire Chief Dave Micka is resigning and Gavin Brown will be the new Chief.

**VI. Adjournment**


**Commissioner Walters made a motion to adjourn; Commissioner Runte seconded. Motion carried 5-0.**

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 pm

**ATTEST:**

  
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**James D. Simmons, Mayor**

  
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**Nancy Wilson, Town Clerk**