

TOWN OF HAVERHILL
Regular Town Council Meeting
Thursday, March 24, 2011
Town Hall – 4585 Charlotte Street
OFFICIAL MINUTES

Pursuant to the foregoing notice, the regular meeting of the Haverhill Town Council was held on Thursday, March 24, 2011 at the Town Hall, 4585 Charlotte Street, Haverhill. Those present were Jay G. Foy, Mayor; James E. Woods, Vice Mayor; Jerry Beavers, Council Member; Mark Uptegraph, Council Member; Lawrence Gordon, Council Member. Also present were Town Attorney John Foster; Code Enforcement Officer, Joseph Roche; and Deputy Town Clerk, Janice L. Massie.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Foy called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Foy offered the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

The Deputy Town Clerk recorded all members were present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

There being no additions, deletions or substitutions, the agenda stood as presented.

APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

Approve Minutes of the March 10, 2011 Regular Meeting

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Woods, seconded by Council Member Uptegraph, and unanimously passed (5-0) to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

None.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

None.

COMMENTS FROM THE PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Deputy Sergeant R. Nandlal was present representing the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office. He reported only minor traffic stops. Mayor Foy briefly mentioned the Belvedere Road robbery. Code Enforcement Officer, Joseph Roche announced that Captain Miles would no longer be representing the Town of Haverhill. He is moving to a location in Royal Palm Beach. John Prieschl is the new representative. Council Member Lawrence Gordon asked about the police schedule. Mayor Foy explained that the Town permits with the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office ("PBSO"). Vice Mayor Woods added that Steve Thibadeau of PBSO performs the scheduling and is aware of the Town's needs. Council Member Lawrence Gordon suggested having "grace" days in which PBSO issues only warnings for traveling over the speed limit. Deputy Sergeant R. Nandlal indicated that the officer on duty would make that determination.

Code Enforcement Officer Joseph Roche indicated that a large amount of drugs have been confiscated after vehicles have been pulled over. Discussion followed.

SECOND READINGS AND PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

FIRST READINGS AND REGULAR AGENDA

a. Designate voting delegate and alternate to vote on behalf of the Town of Haverhill at any League of Cities General Membership Meeting.

Vice Mayor Woods expressed his belief that the Mayor of the Town should be the permanent voting delegate, with the rest of Council acting as alternates. Mayor Foy agreed. Mayor Foy asked Town Attorney John Fenn Foster if it needed to be Town policy. Town Attorney John Fenn Foster indicated that by reflecting their decision in the minutes, it would be considered policy.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Woods, seconded by Council Member Beavers, and unanimously passed (5-0) to approve the Mayor as the voting delegate, with Council and the Town Administrator acting as alternates, to vote on behalf of the Town of Haverhill at any League of Cities General Membership meeting.

REPORTS

Town Attorney

Town Attorney John Fenn Foster informed Council of the upcoming Belvedere Road and Code & Ordinance Committee Meetings. He reported that he has been working with the Town Administrator and Code Enforcement Officer regarding signs at the shopping center located at 1069 North Military Trail.

Mayor

a. Committee Appointments. The Mayor informed Council that if they are not appointed to a committee they are free to attend any meeting. The Mayor reviewed the list of committee appointments and informed Council of the additions and deletions.

Mayor Foy informed Council that the committee meeting times are scheduled at noon. The Belvedere Road Committee and Code & Ordinance Committee meetings for April have been scheduled at 2:00 p.m. on April 6 and April 7, but he informed all present that all future meetings shall be scheduled at noon.

Mayor Foy informed Council of the new water restrictions issued by South Florida Water Management ("SFWMD"). He also informed Council of the email from Laura Corry of SFWMD. He indicated that he is not inclined to proceed with proclamations.

Mayor Foy informed Council that the grant was obtained and the Town would be going out to bid for the new air conditioning at Town Hall. He indicated that Vice Mayor Woods would not be voting on this issue, as it would represent a conflict of interest. He pointed out the importance of ethics. Council Member Lawrence Gordon asked about the grant process. Mayor Foy and Vice Mayor Woods explained that \$250,000.00 would be received to be used for energy efficiency retrofits at the Town. Council Member Lawrence Gordon questioned if the Town had considered hybrid vehicles. Vice Mayor Woods indicated that it was researched and found not to be economical. Discussion followed.

Council Member Lawrence Gordon inquired about the bid process and asked if he could be brought up to speed and obtain a list from the Town Administrator.

Copyright of the Town seal was discussed. Town Attorney John Fenn Foster indicated that if the Council would like to move forward, the issue should be discussed at a Code & Ordinance Committee Meeting.

Consultants

None.

Administrator's Report

Deputy Town Clerk Janice Massie informed Council that Staff planned to mail the Newsletter the week of March 28, 2011. She asked for a prompt review by Council. Hard copies of the Newsletter were distributed to Council for their comments.

Committee/Delegate Report

Vice Mayor Woods announced that the picnic plans were under way. He informed Council that a car show will also take place during the picnic. The next Special Events Committee Meeting is scheduled for April 4, 2011 at noon. He informed the Mayor that there will be special awards for the winners, including a "Mayor's Choice" winner.

Council Member Jerry Beavers informed Council that he attended an Emergency Management Committee Meeting. He also attended a webinar and informed Council of various statutes. He suggested the Town consider forming a mission statement. A Policy Manual for the Town was briefly discussed. Discussion followed.

Mayor Foy informed Council that the revised NPDES agreement looked good. He indicated that he wrote a letter to the Governor and it looked like it was getting some attention.

Treasurer's Report

(Included in packet)

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Council Member Lawrence Gordon asked about Belvedere Road being labeled a speed trap. Discussion ensued. Vice Mayor Woods explained the history of Belvedere Road. He conveyed that the main reason the speed limit was lowered was for safety, beginning with the children at the Stacy Street School. He explained how he believed that the complaints were generated by Palm Beach Post employees who had offices at each end of Belvedere Road. He felt that the Town had been treated unfairly in the press and that the Post had a hidden agenda. He explained the Belvedere Road widening issue and that Council has done, and is continuing to do, everything possible to make sure this County project does not move forward. As traffic has decreased because of the lower speed limit on Belvedere Road, the widening would not be necessary. He informed Council Member Lawrence Gordon that they are awaiting the traffic numbers from John Kim, the Town's traffic engineer. Town Attorney John Fenn Foster followed up by indicating that with the existence of the school and the new Boys' & Girls Club coming to the area, the main issue is safety. He reminded all that the interlocal agreement entered into with Palm Beach County in 1992 was a binding agreement, although the County was now indicating that it was just a suggestion and not a binding agreement. Council Member Uptegraph noted that since the speed limit was lowered, the number of accidents had decreased considerably at the intersection. Mayor Foy indicated that the median criteria needs to be addressed.

Mayor Foy informed Council of the Sunshine Laws and indicated that the only time they can communicate with one another is during posted open meetings, such as council meetings.

Code Enforcement Officer Joseph Roche informed Council that the Grove Street project was progressing smoothly.

NEW BUSINESS

Council Member Jerry Beavers informed Council that Pete Hernandez has stage 4 lung cancer and asked that all remember him in their prayers.

Council Member Jerry Beavers informed Council that he will be attending the Palm Beach Task Force meeting on March 30. He is going to bring up the Mecca Farms issue. Discussion ensued regarding the property. Mayor Foy indicated that Northern Palm Beach County has designated the area as a water flow area.

Council Member Lawrence Gordon reported that he met with the Town Engineer, Jeff Renault regarding the project in Briarwood. Council Member Lawrence Gordon indicated that the flooding issues in Briarwood have not been solved. He indicated that Mr. Renault confirmed this. He also questioned the funds in reserve. He felt that if the money was there and the Town needed it to solve a problem, that it should be used. He understood that it could not all be done at once. Lengthy discussion ensued. Mayor Foy explained how the Town, together with Lake Worth Drainage District, Palm Beach County and SFWMD have all been working together to solve the problem. Vice Mayor Woods and Mayor Foy both indicated that the Town has been spending significant funds to alleviate the problem. Vice Mayor Woods indicated that due to the economy, the Town has been unable to place the necessary funds in reserves to "save for a rainy day". He explained that a Resolution was recently passed with the Town's Notice of Intent to levy an assessment on every homeowner for trash pickup, which had been a free service. This will result in a large savings to the Town. Town Attorney John Fenn Foster indicated that this should be in place by May, after the Council meetings in April are held. Vice Mayor Woods also informed Council Member Lawrence Gordon that Council has been taking steps to increase revenue. He mentioned the possibility of increasing the communications taxes.

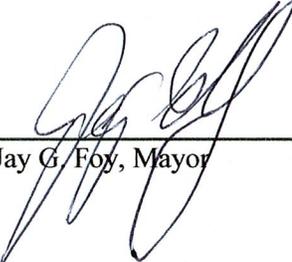
ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before Council, the meeting adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

Approved: April 14, 2011



Janice L. Massie, Deputy Town Clerk



Jay G. Foy, Mayor