

TOWN OF OCEAN BREEZE  
MINUTES REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
Monday, February 14, 2022, 10:30 a.m.  
Ocean Breeze Resort Clubhouse, Pineapple Bay Room  
700 NE Seabreeze Way, Ocean Breeze, FL

**1. Call to Order** – President De Angeles called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

- Pledge of Allegiance – Mayor Ostrand led the Pledge of Allegiance
- Roll Call – Present: Mayor Karen M. Ostrand, President Kenneth De Angeles, Vice-President Richard Gerold, Council Members Bill Arnold, Kevin Docherty, Terry Locatis and David Wagner
- Staff Present –Town Management Consultant, Terry O’Neil; Town Attorney, Rick Crary; Town Clerk, Pam Orr, and Bookkeeper/Assistant, Maria Pierce

**2. Approval of Minutes** – Council Member Wagner, seconded by Council Member Arnold, made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 13, 2021 regular meeting.

President De Angeles asked for public comments.

There were none.

All in Favor: Yes: De Angeles, Gerold, Arnold, Docherty, Locatis, Wagner; No: None; Motion Passed - 6 - 0

Council Member Locatis, seconded by Council Member Wagner, made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 10, 2022 regular meeting.

President De Angeles asked for public comments.

There were none.

All in Favor: Yes: De Angeles, Gerold, Arnold, Docherty, Locatis, Wagner; No: None; Motion Passed - 6 - 0

**3. Budget to Actual Report: First Quarter of Fiscal Year 2022** – Town Bookkeeper, Maria Pierce, stated that the Budget to Actual report had been prepared by Holly Vath, Town Financial Advisor, and asked if Council had any questions.

There were none.

Council Member Wagner, seconded by Council Member Arnold, made a motion to accept the Budget to Actual Report for the First Quarter of Fiscal Year 2022.

President De Angeles asked if there were any public comments.

There were none.

All in Favor: Yes: De Angeles, Gerold, Arnold, Docherty, Locatis, Wagner; No: None; Motion Passed - 6 - 0

President De Angeles introduced Don Donaldson, Martin County Deputy Administrator and announced that Mr. Donaldson would be discussing the construction project being done by the FEC at roundabout at Jensen Beach Boulevard.

Mr. Donaldson spoke about Martin County’s coordination with FEC Brightline and the “All Aboard” high speed rail system and the ongoing improvements at Martin County railway crossings. He introduced Thomas Hornbostel, District Chief, Martin County Fire Rescue.

Chief Hornbostel stated that Martin County Fire Rescue had taken steps to insure no delays in response time for emergencies. He added that there was a shortcut for Fire Rescue to use through Pitchford's RV Park should they need arise.

Michelle Cullum, P.E., Assistant County Engineer, stated that the detour at the round-a-bout at Jensen Beach Boulevard started today and would run through March 11, 2022. She added that if there were any changes to that schedule, that Martin County required a 7 – 14 day notification; and that Martin County would notify the Town. She commented that Brightline had a good history of timely construction.

Discussion ensued regarding detours, the Sheriffs' presence at various detour locations, a temporary pedestrian crossing location, closing of the pedestrian crossing on February 20, 2022, ADA compliance of the pedestrian crossing and problematic design issues on West End Boulevard.

Council Member Locatis stated that the overwhelming consensus in the Ocean Breeze Resort was that West End Boulevard should be northbound, and he added that he did not believe traffic entering a two-lane round-a-bout would be a problem.

Discussion ensued regarding the design plan Marcela Cambolor, Planner, created in July, 2020.

Ms. Cullum remarked that Martin County did not have a say in the direction of traffic on West End Boulevard.

Discussion ensued regarding Maple Street, pedestrians, parking in downtown Jensen Beach, traffic leaving the Resort, traffic patterns at the round-a-bout, decisions being made without the Town's input, dangerous traffic patterns, County records on accidents at the round-a-bout.

Vice-President Gerold requested that the County provide the Town with accident records at the Jensen Beach Boulevard round-a-bout. Ms. Cullum stated that she would fulfill the request and would follow-up with Mr. O'Neil.

Discussion ensued regarding communications between the Town and Martin County, West End Boulevard traffic patterns, information relayed to Martin County by the Town, the project currently under construction, FEC deciding the traffic pattern for West End Boulevard, possible design change, the guardrail at West End Boulevard belonging to the railroad, responsible party for the sidewalk and the crosswalk, FEC requirements, possible changes in the future, parking issues on West End Boulevard, input from local businesses, the possibility of a traffic light at the Resort entrance and additional traffic on Indian River Drive.

Council Member Locatis shared information provided to him from Brightline Director of Public Affairs, Katie Mitzner, who stated that the "One-way (in) layout was preferred by Ocean Breeze and that they conveyed that desire to Martin County who required it of us." He indicated his willingness to work with the railroad on a possible change.

Mr. Donaldson stated that he had heard the request about switching the direction of the one-way traffic on West End Boulevard and that he would discuss the matter with the policy makers on the issue. He continued that in terms of doing something in days, from his perspective, the County would want to have other affected parties involved. He continued that in terms of the FEC, they would continue to build the project as it was currently designed. He added that no design changes were needed to switch the direction, that it would simply be a matter of a policy decision and public involvement.

Council Member Locatis asked Mr. Donaldson if that meant that Martin County would have to contact the businesses for their input.

Mr. Donaldson answered “yes” and that another part of the change would be traffic patterns.

Council Member Locatis commented that he had correspondence from Martin County stating that they did not have any obligation to notify residents or affected businesses; that it was not Martin County’s project.

Mr. Donaldson remarked that he was talking about West End Boulevard and its direction of traffic flow. He stated that once FEC completed the project, the project would come back to Martin County. He added that the Town had very little input because the railway owned the right-of-way and it had to meet DOT standards.

Vice-President Gerold asked about conflicting information given to Sun Communities regarding the direction of one-way traffic on West End Boulevard and that they were unaware of the direction of traffic.

Discussion ensued regarding Martin County’s recent communication with Sun Communities, communications between the Town and Martin County, letters in which the Town communicated its desire to provide input on the project, letters from Martin County, the powers of the railroad, Town boundaries and size, changes that affect the FEC’s right-of-way, whether part of West End Boulevard was in the FEC right-of-way, one-way traffic on West End Boulevard and navigational issues for larger trucks.

Mayor Ostrand stated that she spoke with Representative Overdorf and Senator Gayle Harrell about the situation.

Discussion ensued regarding traffic in downtown Jensen Beach, the Jensen Beach CRA, recreational vehicle traffic turns within and around the Resort.

Council Member Wagner, seconded by Council Member Arnold, made a Motion to send a letter to the parties involved to request a change in direction on West End Boulevard from one-way southbound to one-way northbound.

Roll Call Vote: Yes – De Angeles, Arnold, Docherty, Locatis, Wager; Absent: Gerold; Motion Approved: 5-0

Discussion ensued regarding amending the Motion, a traffic light at the Resort main entrance, heavy vehicular and foot traffic at the main entrance of the Resort, future meetings, recreational vehicular traffic inside and outside the Resort.

Council Member Locatis asked if these topics could be on the Agenda at the next regular meeting.

Pam Orr answered (inaudible).

Discussion ensued about traffic studies.

Deputy Administrator Donaldson stated that the FEC did not perform a traffic impact study analysis and that they were not required to do so.

Discussion ensued about the Martin County law suit, FEC meeting the minimum standards, Martin County’s recourse of building overpasses in the future, Martin County ownership of West End Boulevard,

FEC's ownership of the round-a-bout, FDOT standards, Martin County's involvement in weighing in on the decision that West End Boulevard be southbound, CRA meetings and Commissioner Smith's input.

Mayor Ostrand asked for consideration by Martin County for the feasibility of West End not to be one-way southbound, but rather northbound.

President De Angeles asked for further questions from the Council.

Council Member Locatis stated that with the permission of the Council, he would like to contact Brightline himself and inquire as to what they need in order to change the direction.

Mr. O'Neil commented that it would be beneficial for Council Member Locatis to assist, that the plans had been shared with the Town's engineer, Scott Montgomery, and that he was reviewing them. He stated that Mr. Montgomery would benefit from today's discussion and would be able to lend support to Council Member Locatis and speak with Deputy Administrator Donaldson to formulate the change to the traffic pattern.

Council Member Locatis stated that if Mr. O'Neil would give him Mr. Montgomery's contact information, he would keep him in the loop.

Mr. O'Neil reminded Council Member Locatis to funnel all the information back through to the Town Clerk as a matter of record.

Attorney Crary reminded Council Member Locatis of the Sunshine Law.

**4. Comments from the public on topics not on the agenda** – Janet Galante, Resident of Ocean Breeze Resort, asked for an update on the speed bumps in Ocean Breeze Resort.

Mr. O'Neil answered that the Town had been notified that Sun Communities had secured Captec Engineering to look at a number of infrastructure issues on the north side of the Resort which had to do with water pressure, storm water and other issues. He stated that he understood that the speed bumps were being folded into Mr. Capra's design efforts and that would be a site plan issue. He added that all the other work related to infrastructure need not come back before the Council in order to proceed, but if there were speed tables proposed, a PUD Amendment would be required and a public hearing on the issue of the speed bumps to let the public know where they would be located and how many would be installed. He remarked that Sun Communities had not yet requested a public hearing.

President De Angeles asked for further comments from the public.

Discussion ensued regarding all the changes that were taking place without a public hearing.

**5. Comments from the Council on topics not on the Agenda** – There were none.

**6. Comments from Town Management Consultant, Terry O'Neil** – There were none.



**7. Comments from Mayor Ostrand** – Mayor Ostrand spoke about her trip to the Legislative Conference in Tallahassee. She informed the Council about the extreme concern she and other elected officials had regarding the proposed changes to the Sovereign Immunity bills. She advised the Council that the current limits are \$300,000 per claim and \$400,000 per incident. She added that the proposed bills increase the limits to \$1 million per claim and \$3 million per-incident. She spoke about the smoking in public places bill (HB 105) and the cybersecurity assistance bill.

She took questions from Staff.

**8. Announcements** – President De Angeles announced the regular Town Council meeting to be held Monday, March 14, 2022 at 10:30 a.m. at Ocean Breeze Resort Clubhouse, Pineapple Bay Room, 700 NE Seabreeze Way, Ocean Breeze, Florida.

**9. Adjourn** – Council Member Wagner, seconded by Council Member Locatis, made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:07 a.m.

(All in Favor: De Angeles, Arnold, Docherty, Locatis, Wagner)

Respectfully Submitted,

Pam Orr  
Town Clerk



Minutes approved: March 14, 2022

