

TOWN OF OCEAN BREEZE  
 MINUTES REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
 Monday, April 11, 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.
- Moment of Silence for Earlene Cairns who served on the Town Council from 2011-2017
  - Pledge of Allegiance – Vice-President Gerold led the Pledge of Allegiance
  - Roll Call – Present: President Kenneth De Angeles, Vice-President Richard Gerold, Council Members Bill Arnold, Kevin Docherty, Terry Locatis and David Wagner  
Absent: Mayor Karen Ostrand
  - Staff Present –Town Management Consultant, Terry O’Neil; Town Attorney, Rick Crary, Town Clerk, Pam Orr

**2. Approval of Minutes** – Council Member Arnold, seconded by Council Member Wagner, made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 14, 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. Proclamation – National Donate Life Month** – Town Clerk, Pam Orr, read the Proclamation into the record.

Council Member Arnold, seconded by Council Member Locatis, made a motion to approve the National Donate Life Month Proclamation.

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

**4. Update of FEC/County Improvements at Jensen Beach Blvd. and West End Blvd.** – Mr. O’Neil stated that at last month’s regular meeting, with the community’s overwhelming support and interest, that the one-way road traffic at West End Blvd. should be northbound rather than the current southbound traffic and that the Council directed staff to prepare a letter to Martin County. He commented that the letter was completed and sent to Martin County on March 21<sup>st</sup>, signed by the President and the Mayor reiterating the Town’s position. He remarked that the Town had received a letter on April 1, 2022 from the County Public Works Director, Jim Gordon. He described the letter as a “placeholder” and “wait and see”. He added that the letter stated that the project was not finished, and that Martin County wanted to wait until close-out of the project to reevaluate.

Vice-President Gerold expressed his surprise that many of the local businesses approved the southbound only traffic. He commented that he had other questions, between the county and/or the railroad, were there going to be any upgrades to West End Boulevard such as paving, curbing, guardrails, etc.

Mr. O’Neil answered that he did not have the plans before him today, but that he believed that the railroad’s plan did involve the barricade being moved. He remarked that the Town’s arrangements with the County to invest gas tax revenue into the West End Boulevard improvement, and along with Marcela Cambor’s assistance, the Town was moving forward until the railroad issue came up. He added that if the Town wished to be involved in that project, it would have to be resurrected with the County and they would have to be pressed for an analysis for sidewalks, landscaping, parking enhancements, etc. He stated that the plans would be different now because of the one-way traffic decision. He commented that there may be opportunities for pedestrian or other improvements. He added that he had not seen any evidence that the County was reengaging the idea of performing a joint project on that roadway.

Council Member Locatis asked if there was any response to safety concerns.

Discussion ensued regarding the letter sent to the Sheriff's office, dangerous intersections around Maple Avenue, requests for studies for safety and fire rescue that might have been done for the current project, fire rescue trucks making the turn at the round-a-bout, the Town Engineer's comments regarding the turning radius at the round-a-bout and emergency response times.

President De Angeles asked how to keep the pressure on the County.

Discussion ensued regarding all the letters sent to the County with copies sent to the FEC Railroad, the Sheriff's office, the Town Engineer, individual Town Council members speaking directly to Martin County Commissioners, a petition, the possibility of involving the news.

Attorney Crary mentioned that there were many other areas where the Town cooperated with the County.

Mr. O'Neil commented that the Town's tone had been respectful and appropriate but that there were some questions that were not being answered.

Discussion ensued regarding the reasons the County turned West End into a one-way southbound, the excuses given by County representatives as to the reasoning behind the decisions, the petition which was given to the County Commission per Janet Galante, future correspondence officially inviting Commissioner Smith to a Town Council meeting, the Mayor's absence, the possibility of private meetings with the Mayor and a member of the Town Council, the businesses affected by West End Boulevard changes, data used to make the decision to turn West End Boulevard into one-way southbound, and a survey of the local businesses.

President De Angeles asked if staff would speak to the County as to their data and the input of local businesses regarding the changes on West End Boulevard.

Mr. O'Neil answered that this could be done.

President De Angeles asked that the inquiry include any other organizations that might be involved.

**5. Comments from the public on topics not on the agenda** – Ann Kagdis, resident of Ocean Breeze, attended on behalf of the Entrepreneurship Foundation, a 501(c)(3), that represented the charitable work done in the community for the benefit of the public schools in Jensen Beach. She discussed the Art and Music Auction to be held on April 26, 2022 from 5:30 pm to 8:30 pm at the Treasure Coast Square Mall. She asked that the Town donate a basket for the auction and stated that all the proceeds would go to the Jensen Beach area schools, and she invited everyone to attend. Ms. Kagdis also reminded the Council about "Coffee with Your Commissioner" which was held every two months at 8:00 am at the Community Center. She remarked that it would be a nice way for each member to meet with the Commissioner and network. She added that as members of the Chamber of Commerce the Town Council members could individually go to those meetings and network with the business owners regarding West End Boulevard. She remarked that the Neighborhood Advisory Council met every two months and that she believed this would be a great way to have the Town's voice heard; keeping in the Sunshine Law mind. She suggested assigning a representative to go to the meetings and gather all the data and network with the neighbors.

President De Angeles stated that Senator Gayle Harrell attended last month's Coffee and provided a legislative update. He added that it took place every second Wednesday of every other month.

Cathy Berry, resident of Ocean Breeze, stated that she believed it was important to provide the public's input and the petition regarding West End Boulevard.

Mr. O'Neil stated that the Town had the funds available to assist in purchasing items for a basket for the fundraising efforts of the Entrepreneurship Foundation.

Council Member Wagner, seconded by Council Member Arnold, made a motion to direct staff to assist in making the donation to the Entrepreneurship Foundation basket for auction.

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

Council Member Gerold spoke about the way in which the basket was prepared in other years.

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

**7. Comments from Town Management Consultant, Terry O’Neil – Mr. O’Neil gave an update on the odor problem at the lift station. He was advised that the odor remained.**

Town Clerk, Pam Orr, stated that she would look into the matter and contact Martin County Utilities.

Mr. O’Neil stated that staff would look into the matter with the Town’s engineer and added that the lift station served a large area. He gave some history of the lift station and stated that staff would put some pressure on the County regarding the odor problem.

Mr. O’Neil discussed the lighting request along Indian River Drive. He spoke about the agreement from FPL to install new lighting within the Town limits, outside of the Town limits. He added that Attorney Cray was looking into the matter for other possible liabilities.

Mr. O’Neil spoke about the current street light that was out adjacent to Council Member Docherty’s home at 9 NE Nautical Drive and added that staff would be reporting that outage.

**8. Comments from Mayor Ostrand – absent.**

**9. Announcements – President De Angeles announced the regular Town Council meeting to be held Monday, May 9, 2022 at 10:30 a.m. at Ocean Breeze Resort Clubhouse, Pineapple Bay Room, 700 NE Seabreeze Way, Ocean Breeze, Florida.**

Ann Kagdis announced that the Town’s oldest known resident was Annette Spagnola and that on the 27<sup>th</sup> of April she would be 96 years old. She suggested that the Town acknowledge her birthday.

Council Member Arnold, seconded by, Council Member Wagner, made a Motion to acknowledge the birthday of Annette Spagnola.

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

**10. Adjourn – Council Member Wagner, seconded by Council Member Arnold, made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:37 a.m.**

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

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Orr

Town Clerk

Minutes approved: P.O. May 9, 2022