

From: Laura Aldrich <townclerk@irshores.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 29, 2018 4:54 PM
To: Laura Aldrich
Subject: Recap from 3-22-18 Council Meeting & NEWS Alert
Attachments: Application for Appointment.pdf

Dear Residents and Interested Parties,

It's been an actively changing month at the Town. Here's some of what's happening:

- **Electric:** If you have not yet heard, it was announced that the **FMPA members unanimously approved to allow the sale of the Vero Beach Electric Utility to FPL** on March 21st. The expected closing date for the sale, pending approval by the Public Service Commission (PSC), is October or possibly earlier.
- **Resignations:** First, **Mayor Barefoot** announced at our Council meeting on the 22nd that he would be resigning from office effective April 25th for personal reasons. He has been serving the Town well and faithfully since March 2013. This leaves an **open position for appointment to the Town Council**. Interested residents may [complete this form](mailto:townclerk@irshores.com) and submit it to townclerk@irshores.com before **April 12th** to apply for appointment to the Council, with the mayor's position being chosen by votes cast of the 5 elected officials. The individual appointed will complete the Mayor's term, which ends November 2020.

The Town's **Fire Marshal, Dave Johnson**, resigned March 26th to fulfill the obligations of his promotion as the Chief Fire Marshal.

Jose Guanch, Building Official, tendered his resignation on March 28th to serve as the Deputy Building Official for Indian River County.

These three key individuals will be keenly missed in the day to day operations of the Town, and we wish them well in all of their endeavors.

- **Cell Tower latest:** Good news, Verizon representatives had a tower site-visit with potential contractors who will be installing their equipment. AT&T has requested a site visit also, and DataPath has agreed to provide that ASAP based on AT&T's schedule. AT&T will be installing the fiber optic connections to the site, and DataPath's contractor will be trenching for fiberoptic lines soon.
- Congratulations to **PSD Captain Mark Shaw** for completing the rigorous 10-week **FBI Academy** training with 250 officers from across the nation! Town Manager Stabe and Chief Rosell are also graduates of this institute.
- The Public Safety Department will be hosting the annual **Special Olympics and Public Safety Day** on **April 28th** beginning at 8 a.m. Ambulances, fire trucks and other Public Safety vehicles will be on exhibit.
- Town offices are **closed on Friday, March 30**.
- A **Special Called Council meeting** will be held on Friday, April 13th at 8 a.m. for the Council's confirmation on the contractor for the **Community Center reconstruction**; provide approval for **demolition of the current building**. We will also discuss the process that will be followed during the **collective bargaining** that will soon commence. It is not for negotiation strategizing, as that will commence once articles have been opened by the bargaining team. Discussion about what the area of focus may be and the manner in which the process will take place are possible, and take the opportunity to **recognize Mayor Barefoot's service** to the Town.
- The Indian River County **Chamber of Commerce will bring their Leadership Class** to our Chambers on the 19th at 1:30 for the unit of study on local government (we are one of 4 stops that day).
- The **Police-Fire Pension Board** will meet on Friday, April 20th at 2 in the Chambers.

At the Town Council meeting on March 22, the following items of interest were discussed:

1. The **Town's financial statements** were reviewed by our auditor, with nothing but good news to report. We're one of the few municipalities that have an asset in the OPEB (Other Post Employment Benefits paid to Town retirees) and are only \$200,000 from being fully funded in the Police-Fire Pension liability.
2. Council approved 4-1 for the Public Safety Department to **purchase a used 2015 vehicle** for officers, inspectors, or other employees to use for \$9,000. The economic value in this vehicle is that it comes with an emergency light equipment package that can be used on a new PSD vehicle that is budgeted for next year, saving that \$7,000 expense.
3. The front of the **Public Safety Building** is undergoing extensive repairs to the stucco which was not part of the damage caused from Hurricane Irma, but rather corrective repair from the remodeling to the building in 2006. A change order to the contractor's bid was received today for an additional \$6,300 over the \$27,000 award.
4. An extended discussion by the Building Official with the Council regarding **streamlining the permit process, eliminating** approximately \$285,000 annually in permit fees of the **reserve building funds** and a proposal for an **additional full time inspector** resulted in approval of the recommendations presented and **adoption of Resolution 18-01**.
5. A discussion about the **terms of boards or committees** whose members have fiduciary responsibilities led to the Town Attorney being directed to prepare an ordinance amending the terms to **two 2-year terms** rather than two 4-year terms for first reading at the next meeting.
6. The **May Council meeting** date was changed from the 4th Thursday to (the third Thursday) **May 17th at 9 a.m.** at the request of a councilman.
7. **Mandatory recycling** will be presented by ordinance for the first of two readings at the April Council meeting.
8. In preparation for the upcoming collective bargaining later this year, a consultant was hired to research how other similar public safety departments are staffed and paid. The data should be available within the month. The Council agreed to **call a special workshop to provide direction to the Town Manager regarding topics to be addressed in the bargaining process**.
9. Following a discussion on border security by **Councilman Auwaerter** and the Director of the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council (TCRPC), the Town's PSD Officers were given a **\$2,000 pair of night vision goggles** to enhance our patrolling efforts along waterways in the Town.
10. Vice Mayor Ochsner reported that the **County's appeal on our behalf to the State to designate Sector 4** (most of the Town from John's Island south) **of our beach as critically eroded was not successful**.
11. An extended discussion occurred with residents of **The Shores** regarding the proposed **reuse water pipeline** project being undertaken by John's Island and Indian River County, which will **impact them with excessive noise for two months**, and a continuous 5-day period of dewatering. The resultant action is to have preventive measures taken, such as placing a sound-absorbing structure above it and panels around it, and possibly having a noise mitigation study conducted. The Public Safety Officers will monitor sound levels, and the Town Attorney was requested to have a possible resolution ready for the next meeting.

We wish everyone a safe and restful holiday weekend. Your staff is capable and dedicated to serving the interests of the residents and needs of the Town.

Laura

Laura Aldrich, MMC

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