



MINUTES
THE TOWN OF INDIAN RIVER SHORES
6001 North Highway A1A, Indian River Shores, FL 32963

REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Thursday, April 23, 2015

9:00 a.m.

PRESENT: Brian M. Barefoot, Mayor
Gerard A. Weick, Vice Mayor
Richard M. Haverland, Councilman
Michael B. Ochsner, Councilman
Thomas F. Slater, Councilman

STAFF PRESENT: Robert Stabe, Town Manager
Chester Clem, Town Attorney
Richard Rosell, Public Safety Director
Jose Guanch, Building Official

Laura Aldrich, Town Clerk
Heather Christmas, Town Treasurer
Bart Crosby, Public Safety Department
Lou Puchala, PSD Per Diem Officer

OTHERS PRESENT: Mayor Richard Gillmor & City Manager Joe Griffin, Sebastian; IRC Commissioner Bob Solari, County Attorney Dylan Reingold, Vincent Burke & Himanshu Mehta, IRC Utilities; Pilar Turner, City of Vero Beach Councilwoman; Amy Brunjes, FPL; Glenn Herran, Electric Utility Issue; Liz Hallanan, Resident & Citron Bistro Manager; Paul Amos, O’Haire, Quinn & Candler; George Geletko & Dina Reider-Hicks, Waste Management; Brian Kroh, Jim Moller, Jerry Burr, John’s Island; RESIDENTS Chris Hendricks, PZV Chairman & PZV Member Judy Orcutt, Bob Auwaerter, Finance Committee Member, Caroline Irvin; Bill Grealis; Dick Hatch; Linda Soresi; Dave Stump; Reporters Janet Begley & Lisa Zahner

1. Call to Order

- a. Pledge of Allegiance
- b. Invocation – Councilman Slater
- c. Roll Call – Town Clerk

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Barefoot at 9:01 a.m. The pledge of allegiance and invocation were recited and the roll call is as reflected above. Mayor Barefoot asked for any agenda changes and received none.

2. Proclamations / Presentations

- a. IRC Estuary Coalition Inter-Local Agreement (Mayor Richard Gillmor/City Manager Joe Griffin)

Mayor Barefoot introduced Mayor Gillmor, who gave a synopsis of what had transpired regarding membership on the Indian River Lagoon Coalition. A year ago, the Marine Resources Council sponsored an American Action Assembly, and he was one of about a hundred delegates who spoke expressly about the Indian River Lagoon’s problems and potential solutions. Ten action programs were suggested. Although a number of sources of pollution have been identified by scientists, there are strong feelings that it is all from septic, or stormwater, or agricultural runoff, or incomplete sewer treatment, when it's likely a combination of all of them, depending on your perspective and location. It won't be a quick fix by one city, county or state government.

A new Indian River Lagoon Council (IRLC) was formed, and he began attending their meetings last September. He called each County Commissioner (except one) and lobbied them to be part of this Council, as he deemed it to be very important. Mayor Gillmor detailed that the funds of approximately \$2.2 million are contributed from the SJRWMD, the SFWMD, the Florida EPA, and each of five (5) counties (Volusia, Brevard, Indian River, St. Lucie and Martin) for “fixes” for the lagoon, including the baffle box the Town received a grant to install. Every small contribution will help, but there is so much more needed. This Council will have a seat for everyone to determine where the money goes, but our County opted out. He hopes that the municipalities can fill this void. Before the counties were approached, the Space Coast League of Cities (SCLC) and Treasure Coast Regional League of Cities (TCRLC) were both visited to see if

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they had funding for this seat, and neither did. He asked the IRLC to leave a seat for the County. Other cities, such as Titusville and other cities, wanted a seat, and understands the Board's perspective that it's best not to have a huge board. If you come up with a Coalition with just one seat, this birthed the idea of the interlocal cooperative. He has talked to Susan Adams in Fellsmere, Mayor Winger in Vero, and Orchid's Mayor about participation in cost-sharing the \$50,000.

Councilman Haverland asked if we have to "buy our way" into this as part of \$50,000, and Mayor Gillmor explained that it funds projects like our baffle boxes. Councilman Slater said he didn't think there was a reluctance to do what's best for the Lagoon, but believes the structure of the organization was the County's issue, and who would decide how to use the money. Mayor Gillmor said we had no representation from any of the counties before, and having at least one seat is better than that.

Councilman Haverland said we got the funds for the baffle box prior to this, so some bureaucrat looked at our project and measured it against other projects. He questioned if we will be vying for projects with other counties, if it will create more money or if we are fighting for our share.

Mayor Gillmor said there will be a board of seven (7) of whom five (5) are elected officials, and one of those representatives will be from the cities of Indian River County to decide where to use the funds. This organization will hire staff, a director and people who work for that director, who will scientifically rank the projects, and input comes from counties up and down the Lagoon. This is currently housed under SJWMD. They can't do anything to increase the pot of funds, can't lobby for private funds, and this separate IRL Council could be seed money as a non-profit organization. People who are concerned could invest privately.

Mayor Barefoot questioned who would be competing for funds, and Mayor Gillmor said the State EPA, SJRWMD and SFWMD have voting members. If IRC opted in the five (5) County Commissioners would have a vote.

Vice Mayor Weick said this group exists now, and people can donate to the Lagoon cause now. The license plates sales yield about \$143,000. He agreed with the Mayor, it looks like a bureaucratic disaster. They are operating without Indian River County, Mayor Gillmor said, and there will probably not be votes towards Indian River County without representation.

Councilman Ochsner said everyone is concerned with the Lagoon. The \$2 million doesn't seem like enough to do much with on an annual basis. He is not so sure this is something in which we want to participate.

Vice Mayor Weick asked Commissioner Solari to speak from the County's perspective. He spoke about the bureaucracy at a meeting in Tallahassee last week about All Aboard Florida, relating it to the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council (TCRPC) and the FMPA, asking if they have gotten one thing favorable for the Town. These are all staff-driven organizations, not elected officials. It is the bureaucrats who set the policy. . This Lagoon Council has three (3) bureaucracies, FDEP, SJWMD, SFWMD who regulate us, and they have three votes. He appeared not to like that there will be decisions predetermined by staff or bureaucrats, as it is setting up another bureaucracy over which we will have no control or effective vote. He said elected officials act as a front for the underlying bureaucracy.

Councilman Slater asked Commissioner Solari for an alternative. He suggested that it just be elected officials on the board. He spoke about a public records request that revealed the Indian River Lagoon Advisory Board had an agreement signed 12 days earlier by the Executive Director of the SJRWMD with the consultant to emulate the Tampa Bay Estuary model in the Indian River Lagoon. He did not believe our voice would be heard. They would not discuss their budget, as over \$500,000 of the \$2 million was for staff.

Mayor Barefoot said this was for discussion, and it can be put on the agenda in May if someone desires to join this coalition. Councilman Ochsner expressed reluctance to set up another bureaucracy.

Judy Orcutt, Pebble Bay, said she attends these meetings and understands Commissioner Solari's frustrations, and mentioned there was a bureaucracy before when it was under the SJRWMD, this is the way things have been handled. The Tampa Bay and Charlotte Parker models have both been very effective, and the IR Lagoon National Estuary Program (IRLNEP) is really important. This is the only body that overlooks the entire watershed. Since he has quit attending the meetings, the full budget has been disclosed, and the director search has been in process. She believes it is very important for Indian River County to have representation at this table, preferably by Indian River County.

Mayor Barefoot asked Mayor Gillmor how it would be determined among Vero, Indian River Shores, Sebastian, Orchid, and Fellsmere who would go to the meetings, and was told be up to the collaborative to assign a member and an alternate who would report back. They would then sit together and vote as one at the meeting. The meetings have been held in Palm Bay.

Councilman Haverland asked how the Tampa Estuary project was initiated, and Mrs. Orcutt said the money that comes to fund the programs comes from the Federal government to a non-profit, and Tampa set it up as a non-profit from the beginning. In our Lagoon, SFRWMD was the host entity, which was the glitch. The IRLNEP Board would approve projects, and the SJRWMD was having philosophical differences on which projects to fund. Mayor Gillmor added most follow a working model when setting up something new, and the Tampa Bay model has cities sitting on the board. It is a large board that has been successful in cleaning up the Bay. He also noted that St. Lucie and Martin Counties are under SFWMD.

Councilman Slater asked about the current staff, and Mayor Gillmor said as it is very new, the SJRWMD is paying for Frank Sukura, the field rep/scientist and two others. Councilman Ochsner asked who deemed the Tampa Bay model as successful, and Mayor Gillmor said the success is shown by fish and sea grass growth coming back.

Councilman and Mayor Gillmor discussed staffing and the board composition, with Mayor Gillmor reminding everyone that there will be five elected officials if we are successful. We have to lobby the group for the one seat that should have been held by the County. Councilman Ochsner and Mayor Gillmor discussed the National Estuary Program money going towards St. Lucie County, which would have to have SJRWMD approval, even though they had no oversight. This was one of the big reasons we got out from under that umbrella. This is the impetus for SFWMD wanting to contribute seed money. This can help fix the Lagoon. All swales lead to canals that lead to the lagoon.

Mayor Barefoot asked if other municipalities have agreed, and so far Fellsmere and Sebastian have. The Shores and Orchid have not voted yet. Councilwoman Turner said the City of Vero has not voted, but there is a majority consensus of interest indicated.

Commissioner Bob Solari had two quick clarifying points: he was on the Board of the IRLNEP before, which extended to Martin and St. Lucie County, and it covered the Estuary. He also said that Indian River County staff does not do everything for the County Commission; he was elected by the people and works very hard for the people 50-60 hours a week for Indian River County. The Commissioners set policy and have a very good, highly qualified staff to implement it.

3. Consent Agenda

- a. Acceptance of March 9, 2015 Planning, Zoning & Variance Board Minutes
- b. Approval of March 26, 2015 Town Council Organizational Meeting Minutes
- c. Approval of March 26, 2015 Regular Town Council Meeting Minutes
- d. Approval of April 9, 2015 Town Council Workshop ISO Risk Assessment & PSD Staffing Minutes
- e. Approval of Invoices from Utility Litigation Attorney Dated March 31, 2015 and April 21, 2015
- f. Approval of Invoice from Town Attorney dated March 31, 2015
- g. Approval of Progress Billing Invoice from Auditor dated March 31, 2015

There being no items pulled from the consent agenda, the Mayor received **a motion** from Councilman Haverland with a second by Councilman Ochsner **to approve the consent agenda as presented, which passed 5-0.**

4. Town Attorney

- a. Ordinance 518, Dog Friendly Dining (2nd & Final Reading)

Mr. Clem said that this Ordinance has been read once and published, and is ready for a final reading and vote. Mr. Clem then performed final reading by title only as follows:

AN ORDINANCE OF TOWN OF INDIAN RIVER SHORES, INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FLORIDA, PURSUANT TO SECTION 509.233, FLORIDA STATUTES, ADDING SECTION 160.052 TO THE LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE (LDC) ENTITLED "DOG-FRIENDLY DINING;" PROVIDING FOR A LOCAL EXEMPTION TO ALLOW DOGS IN DESIGNATED OUTDOOR PORTIONS OF PUBLIC FOOD SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS; PROVIDING FOR DEFINITIONS; PROVIDING FOR APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICT AND SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

With no further discussion, a **motion to approve the final reading of Ordinance 518, Dog-Friendly Dining**, was made by Councilman Ochsner with support from Councilman Slater, which **passed 5-0.**

- b. Ordinance 521 DC Pension Plan Clarification (2nd and Final Reading)

Mr. Clem said this Ordinance is for second reading, and proceeded to read the title as follows:

AN ORDINANCE OF TOWN OF INDIAN RIVER SHORES, INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE TOWN OF INDIAN RIVER SHORES'

GENERAL EMPLOYEE'S DEFINED CONTRIBUTION PLAN TO CLARIFY EMPLOYEE ELIGIBILITY AND MATCHING EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS; PROVIDING FOR CONTINUITY; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICT AND SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mr. Clem said there was an attachment to the Ordinance as well, and Mr. Stabe said it was amended administratively as the Council instructed staff at the last meeting. A **motion** by Councilman Slater to **adopt Ordinance 521 on its second and final reading** was seconded by Vice Mayor Weick and **passed 5-0**.

5. Mayor's Items (Possible or Probable Action)

a. Electric Litigation Update

Mayor Barefoot summarized that when we entered into the last mediation session with the City of Vero Beach and the County, we agreed to explore all options. As part of that, he met with representatives of FPL and asked, among other options, if they would be interested in acquiring the rights to serve the other residents of the Town not currently being served by them. He asked Mrs. Brunjes to update them on their meeting with the City of Vero Beach Manager.

b. Mrs. Brunjes confirmed that they have done some due diligence since the meeting with Mayor Barefoot, and they do believe it is achievable to acquire the Town's portion of the City's customers without negatively impacting rest of the Vero Beach electric customers, which could be done without approval of FMPA. The first desire is to serve the entire Vero Beach customer base, and they will consider serving just the Town.

Last Monday Sam Forest, the VP Energy Marketing and Trading went with Mrs. Brunjes to see City Manager Jim O'Connor and asked him to look at this option. There were no specific terms or negotiating exchanged, and she said a thorough evaluation of the assets would have to be performed.

Mayor Barefoot said he believes a partial sale could be the cornerstone of settling the litigation issue with the City, and at the Tuesday Vero Beach Council meeting, the Manager said a partial sale was "impractical." In the press, he said there were obstacles to overcome, such as the importance of the substation housed in Indian River Shores and the stranded cost issue. We don't believe there are stranded costs, as we have no equity interest or liability, and it is the City's issue not the customer's issue. If there were, those things are typically taken into consideration in a negotiation between the two utilities. Mrs. Brunjes affirmed, and said they did view connectivity issues such as with the substation as something that could be overcome. Stranded costs would be part of the negotiations between the City and the Town.

Mayor Barefoot said the third issue concerns the fate of the rest of the customer base outside of the City. The implication was that it wouldn't be fair for others who would not be able to exit the high cost of Vero Beach electric. This is a more significant portion of the customer base, Mrs. Brunjes said, and would require FMPA approval.

Councilman Slater said we have been told that we have insignificant numbers from a power standpoint to the City of Vero Beach's overall customer base. He reads that Vero Beach isn't interested in negotiating at all, and it takes two parties to negotiate. Councilmember Turner said the City wants to bring lower rates to as many people as possible, Mrs. Brunjes said, and this could be a first step.

Councilman Haverland said our discussions with FPL took place, and they have studied the lines and transmission, but he did not understand why FPL didn't make an offer at that time. Mrs. Brunjes said they are under a purchase and sale agreement, but they have to be willing to negotiate. FPL has to look at the assets. Councilman Haverland suggested that whatever FPL has in mind would make a big difference to the City. Mayor Barefoot reminded him that it is not our position to counsel FPL on how to conduct their business, and if they have a plan, they don't have to share it with us. The study by the City's Finance Director showed us as only 8.5% of the City's revenues, which is what Mr. O'Connor called "insignificant" at the last meeting. Mayor Barefoot continued that the revenues may be harder to generate due to the profiles of the customers. He and Vice Mayor Weick discussed some hypothetical numbers, and mentioned that they have not yet provided any cost reduction offer that was owed last week per the last Mediation session.

Mrs. Brunjes said Mr. O'Connor did state that the City cannot meet parity with FPL rates. This costs a minimum of \$2 million a year, which continues growing exponentially. Councilman Slater said he is willing to invest in litigation on May 2nd if we do not have an agreement on May 1. It's time to stop the General Fund transfers and the \$2 million annual loss to our residents.

Mayor Barefoot mentioned the further FPL rate reduction that goes into effect on May 1, and the rates will be more like \$94/kW hour compared to the City's rates of \$124.

Mayor Barefoot expressed appreciation for Mrs. Brunjes' time to update them. She said they understand what the Mayor and others are saying, and they are anxious to end this six and a half year journey.

The Mayor asked if there was any public comment, and Glenn Heran addressed them. He supported the sovereign right of the Town to sell the territory to FPL, and encouraged the County to seek the same deal. Mr. Heran believed the Mayor's stranded costs comments were excellent, as he mentioned there may not be any stranded costs, as what would be the value after 30 years. Winter Park bought their territory back from Duke Electric. The County Commission received an FMPA valuation presentation from Mr. Heran last week of the assets, cash, investments and market value of generation to know the exit costs. The County took action to write a letter to the Joint Legislative Audit Committee asking the Legislative Members to do a valuation of the FMPA. The City was asked the same thing two weeks ago, with no action taken to date. He prepared a resolution for the Town not to take action on it today, but for consideration to put pressure on the legislature in Tallahassee.

6. **Discussion with Possible or Probable Action**

a. April 13, 2015 Meeting Report - Planning, Zoning & Variance Board (Chris Hendricks)

Chairman Hendricks said there were two requests, one for a tree of special concern (ficus), which was approved for removal without mitigation. The second request was for two variances for the home on 383 Silver Moss Drive. The PZV Board approved these for recommendation that the Council consider approval. **A motion to approve a 20' West rear lot line variance and 9.4' East front lot line variance for 383 Silver Moss Drive** was made by Vice Mayor Weick with support from Councilman Ochsner, which **passed unanimously 5-0**.

b. Board or Committee Appointments (Town Manager)

1) Planning, Zoning & Variance Board – Full (June Pickett) and Alternate (Marcia Henderson)

Mr. Stabe asked for the Council's **ratification for Chris Hendricks appointment as Chairman of the PZV Board**, which was made in the form of a **motion** by Vice Mayor Weick with support from Councilman Ochsner, which **passed 5-0**.

He then asked for approval of **appointment of June Pickett as full time member from alternate on the PZV Board, which motion** was made by Vice Mayor Weick with a second from Councilman Ochsner, which **passed unanimously**.

A separate **motion to approve the appointment of Marcia Henderson as alternate to the PZV Board** was made by Councilman Ochsner with support from Vice Mayor Weick, **passing 5-0**.

2) Finance Committee – Full Member from Alternate - Bob Auwaerter

Mr. Stabe requested that we **move Bob Auwaerter up to full member from Alternate on the Finance Committee**, which **motion passed 5-0** after being made by Councilman Ochsner and seconded by Vice Mayor Weick.

3) Finance Committee – Chairman Discussion (Town Council/Town Manager)

Councilman Ochsner, as outgoing Chairman of the Finance Committee, **made a motion to appoint Bob Auwaerter as Chairman of the Finance Committee**, which was seconded by Vice Mayor Weick and **passed 5-0**.

4) Police-Fire Pension Board – Reappoint Bill MacDonald (4-year Term)

A motion to reappoint Bill MacDonald to the Police-Fire Pension Board for a 4 year term as Council's appointee was made by Councilman Slater with support by Councilman Ochsner, which **passed 5-0**.

c. Solid Waste - Recycling Changes

Mr. Stabe said we are waiting for Republic Services to declare their intentions. Mr. Clem said that Republic is almost totally excluded from providing recycling (county-wide) and hauling solid waste in (unincorporated) Indian River County. Councilman Ochsner received confirmation from Mr. Clem that we do have a right as a town to use Republic Services. Republic Services may opt to exit the County service and turn their accounts to Waste Management. Councilman Ochsner and Mr. Clem discussed that Republic Services would negotiate certain items with the County. The County's contract with Waste Management is 10 years with a 3-year option. We have a 1993 interlocal agreement, Mr. Clem continued, to be part of the recycling program from which we could withdraw with 90-day notice prior to October 1. All entities have been very cooperative in seeking a solution.

Councilman Slater noted that Republic has given great service to this Town, which is part of the reason we stay with them, as maintaining the proven level is paramount. Mr. Clem said there are discussions about transferring employees and equipment, if needed, to Waste Management from Republic.

County Administrator Joe Baird said they did an RFP and got 30% decrease in rates from Waste Management. He said the County didn't mean to impact or hurt the Town in any way, and will try to work with the Town. They will not stop taking recyclables. He expressed confidence in Waste Management's desire to please the Town and its residents. The County has to aggressively increase the recycling efforts to 75% in five years, as it is one of 13 Counties in the State that is not meeting the mandated level. Mr. Baird said they will work with the Town, and will be implementing single stream recycling. If the Town wants to continue with the blue bins rather than wheeled carts, that's fine.

Councilman Slater said our rates are considerably better, which Mr. Baird said is because the Town has mandatory participation. The County has subscription service.

Frequency of pickup for solid waste and recycle and the rates for our recycle were discussed briefly. Mr. Clem said our contract is only 3 more years with Republic Services, and the County is tied up with Waste Management for 13 years. We will be able to address this more thoroughly after meeting with Republic Services next week.

Dylan Reingold, County Attorney, said that the Solid Waste Disposal District (SWDD) provision would be determined by the Town. The recycle agreement and the interlocal agreement gives the County the right to contract for a recycling agreement. This right was extended to Waste Management, who is willing to work it out with the Town. If this is part of the tax bill, the County writes the recycle hauler a check, which they have been doing for Republic for recycling.

The Town Manager said the County Commissioners gave the Town until April 30th to have the decision on who to use for recycling before they have to place the initial order for rolling carts.

Mayor Barefoot said the employees for Republic Services are vetted by John's Island Security, and new employees can't just come in the gates without the same clearance process. Also, we have communities with tree canopies that do not allow large trucks and other logistical challenges. Mr. Reingold said the members of SWDD, Waste Management, and Republic Services have a 6-month transition plan.

The arm of the truck for automatic pickup of containers was discussed with Vice Mayor Weick, the Mayor and Mr. Baird, who said they will work with the Town to resolve any concerns or problems.

Vincent Burke, Utility Director, said there are three sizes (35, 45, & 95 gallon) carts that have lids with instructions. There will be one truck once a week, and options for the trucks include a side arm rather than a top-swing. He mentioned that Treasure Coast Refuse (Republic Services) came in third on the bids. The County has heard the Town's concerns, and polled the Town for cart preference months ago. Within the first 90 days a resident can swap out for a different size of cart. There is technology on the carts for tracking the amount of recycling. Vice Mayor Weick asked if this will become mandatory to recycle, and Mr. Burke said the landfill fee is currently paying for it but it is voluntary to recycle.

d. Approval of OPEB Liability Calculation as of October 1, 2014 (Town Manager/Town Treasurer)

Mr. Stabe asked for the Council to approve this calculation as requested in the memo from the Town Treasurer. Councilman Haverland said these appear to be conservative assumptions, so the liability will be on the high side rather than the low side. It assumes 5% annual increases, which doesn't tie to historical practice. A **motion to approve the OPEB liability calculations as of October 1, 2014** was made by Councilman Ochsner and seconded by Councilman Haverland, which **passed 5-0**.

e. Accept Police-Fire Pension Actuary Study as of October 1, 2014 for FY 15 (Town Manager)

Mr. Stabe asked for Council's decision and **motion to accept the Police-Fire Pension Actuary Study as of October 1, 2014**, which was made by Councilman Haverland with support from Vice Mayor Weick, **passing 5-0**.

f. Police-Fire Supplemental 175/185 Plan Discussion (Town Manager)

Mr. Stabe said the Police-Fire Pension Board asked that this be brought to the Council as it is a change to the plan document that would offer each employee who is vested but leaves PSD employment the option to either freeze the current shares or continue to participate in the plans investments and either earn/lose interest. The employee would not continue to receive State funds distributed annually, but it allows interest to accumulate in the account until retirement age is reached.

Councilman Ochsner said this is a basic consideration, to which Mr. Stabe replied the Board also agreed. Councilman Haverland said he also tends to agree, but considered it as part of the union negotiation package, and Vice Mayor Weick agreed. The Town Manager noted Pension Board Chairman Crosby was in the room for questions. Mayor Barefoot said it doesn't make any sense that it wouldn't it be amended at the highest level. No motion was made.

7. **Town Manager**

a. Cell Tower Update

Mr. Stabe said he has a number of companies who are in process of submitting proposals to the Town. Improved stealth-looking towers that resemble palm trees or clock towers are much nicer looking. He is working with John's Island Club as an additional possible partner if more than one tower is needed, and hopes to have solid proposals by the next meeting.

Mayor Barefoot asked about the option for leasing land for a cell tower company to be responsible to build one, maintain it, and lease it, or if we should do it ourselves. Mr. Stabe agreed that those are two viable options. The Town could build it and then sell it a few years later for a handsome profit. He is coordinating for possibly two towers that operate under the same basis. Mayor Barefoot said this is something we live with every day, and it is very important.

(Vice Mayor Weick had to depart at 11 a.m.)

b. Departmental Reports (Building, Financial Balance, Public Safety)

No discussion.

8. **Council / Committee Reports or Non-Action Items**

a. Election Date for 2017 – Possible Reschedule, Charter Amendment (Councilman Haverland)

(Came back to this after discussion 8 b)

Councilman Haverland said he raised the question last month as to why we hold the elections in March, which cost us much more than the General Election would cost in November. Laura secured information from the Supervisor of Elections that showed clearly that dramatically more people vote in November than in March, and he suggested that we explore changing the elections to the General Election date in November.

Councilman Slater said he agreed, and he thinks people think more about elections when they are held in November. Mayor Barefoot asked Chester and Laura to present the Council with all of the various considerations besides changing the Charter, like benefits and changes needed.

Councilman Haverland also asked for an update on **Collective Bargaining negotiations**, which Mr. Stabe apologized and said he intended to have this under his matters on the agenda. The first Collective Bargaining meeting is scheduled for April 28th, next Tuesday at 10 am. Councilman Haverland asked if they could add an Executive session for this on the same day as the special called meeting will be held, and all were agreeable.

b. Council Committee Reports (MPO, EDC, TCCLG, TCRPC, TCRLC, Others)

TCRPC. The Mayor said he attended, and agreed with Commissioner Solari's earlier comments that there is very little relevant matters brought from this Council to the Town.

Beach & Shores. Councilman Ochsner said they did not meet.

TCRLC. Councilman Slater said they did not meet.

TCCLG. Councilman Haverland had nothing to report.

MPO. Councilman Haverland attended and said there was extensive discussion about project priorities, with possibly the widening of CR 510 to Wabasso Bridge of impact to our residents.

Mayor Barefoot mentioned the **Mediation session** will be held in our Community Center on Friday, May 1st, and encouraged the Council to attend. In case of an impasse, a Special Called Council meeting will need to be held prior to May 15. The Council agreed to check their calendars for May 7 or 8 to discuss what final action we may choose to take regarding our lawsuit. He said Mr. May and Mr. Deason are available on those dates. Mr. Slater said he will not be here. They are requested to coordinate with Mr. Stabe.

9. **Call to Audience**

None

10. **Adjournment.** The meeting was adjourned at 11:09 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ _____

Laura Aldrich, Town Clerk

(Approved by the Town Council at the 5-21-15 meeting)