



# TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH

One Golden Beach Drive  
Golden Beach, FL 33160

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Official Minutes for the May 26, 2020  
Special Town Council Zoom Virtual Meeting called for 5:00 P.M.

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**Zoom Room Meeting ID: 810 8785 1091 Password: 322771**

**For Dial In Only: Call 929.205.6099 Meeting ID: 810 8785 1091**

THE PUBLIC MAY PARTICIPATE AT GOOD AND WELFARE; PLEASE HOLD ALL QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS UNTIL THEN! THE PUBLIC IS ENCOURAGED TO SUBMIT ALL COMMENTS VIA EMAIL TO [LPEREZ@GOLDENBEACH.US](mailto:LPEREZ@GOLDENBEACH.US) BY 2:00 P.M. TUESDAY, MAY 26, 2020.

## A. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Mayor Singer called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

## B. ROLL CALL

**Councilmember's Present:** Mayor Glenn Singer, Vice Mayor Bernard Einstein, Councilmember Judy Lusskin, Councilmember Jaime Mendal, Councilmember Kenneth Bernstein

**Staff Present:** Town Manager Alexander Diaz, Town Attorney Steve Helfman, Town Clerk Lissette Perez, Finance Director Maria D. Camacho, Police Lieutenant Yovany Diaz, Resident Services Director Michael Glidden

## C. PRESENTATIONS / TOWN PROCLAMATIONS

None

## D. MOTION TO SET THE AGENDA

ADDITIONS/ DELETIONS/ REMOVAL OF ITEMS FROM CONSENT AGENDA/ AND CHANGES TO AGENDA

Councilmember Mendal asked to add flooding to discussion.  
Consensus vote 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

## E. GOOD AND WELFARE

None

## F. MAYOR'S REPORT

Beaches are going to be opening on June 1<sup>st</sup>. He was just on a call with the other mayors and county mayor to set up some guidelines for going to the beach. Will be required to bring a facemask with you, but you are not required to wear it. You are allowed to go into water and you are allowed to lay on a towel – obviously you have to

keep social distancing. Restrictions are solid and we are going to be enforcing it. There are some additional rules regarding the restrooms – but he will let the Town Manager expand on that. Stated that as it relates to construction when work is being done in a Town residence, the worker's need to wear a mask. As of tomorrow, he is lifting the restriction of limiting construction work to ten people to help speed up construction. Must still follow the rules of social distancing and wearing a mask at all times. Wants to thank all of the residents for following the procedures. Overall, everyone has followed procedures and I am very proud of our residents. He found out today that only 55% of residents filled out the census. Census information is critical for Golden Beach because we receive additional revenues based on our census. Encourages the residents that are listening, and encourages all of the Council to fill out the census information. Summer is here, and based on the weather the last few days – hurricane season is already here. Encourages residents to get supplies and be prepared because this looks to be a very active season. Hopes everyone enjoys their summer, thanks for everyone's supportive emails and texts, really appreciates it. Been through a lot the first half of the year – hopefully the rest of the year will be better.

## **G. CORONAVIRUS UPDATE**

See attached Memorandum from the Town Manager

To date Golden Beach has 12 cases of COVID-19. He is not given the exact data of where those individuals live. Thanks to your actions, we have been able to limit the spread of COVID-19. We came back to Town full-time last week, May 18<sup>th</sup>. We are requiring the public to make an appointment to come and meet with the staff. We will not turn away walk-ins, but if you walk-in you will be asked to wait outside until someone is ready to see you. The building department is also by appointment. The County Mayor and our Mayor are adamant that in order for us to keep COVID-19 from spreading we need to make sure everyone is practicing proper hygiene. The Town did take possession of 90 gallons of hand sanitizer to prepare for our beach opening. When we open the restrooms at the pavilion, we will open the restrooms at Tweddle Park. In Golden Beach, only residents and their immediate families will be allowed, no guests. We will change that as we see good behavior. For the first week we are not going to provide amenities. We will never bring back the beds, only the chaise lounges and the Adirondack chairs that we have. We will only allow one person in the restroom at a time. We are required to have two beach attendants at the beach at all times when we reopen. If the beach is not manned, the amenities will not be offered. This week we will be installing push buttons so that you can use your elbows to turn on the faucets to limit contact. The beaches hours of operation are set hours now, no longer from sunrise to sunset. To date, on preparations and adaptations to COVID-19 the Town has spent \$53,000. We are seeking reimbursement for half of that cost. There will be a COVID-19 E-blast this Friday to talk about COVID-19 changes and construction updates. All Town events through the summer are cancelled, but we are planning alternate offerings for residents.

## **H. COUNCIL COMMENTS**

### **Vice Mayor Einstein**

A little concerned when we open our beaches – are we going to have a police officer manning that at that time.

**Town Manager** stated that the beach attendants will be manning it and requesting ID's to ensure that you're a resident.

**Vice Mayor Einstein** I feel that right before this happened, spring break occurred and it was a free for all on the beach. And putting that pressure on the beach attendants, we might want to be sensitive to that potentially happening. He has been using the pickle ball court. Really enjoys it. The sign-up program really seems to work. The weather is changing now, it is getting a little warmer and we'll see what happens. Georgia seems to have gotten over this month without an increase of disease. May want to advise on the e-blast that people need to be on alert and bring some form of identification with them.

#### **Councilmember Lusskin**

Hoped everyone had a wonderful Memorial Day and hoped they all enjoyed the bagels. Stated that once the Town Manager brought the entire staff back, they were out their trimming trees and preparing the Town for hurricane season and despite everything, the Town looks good. Stated the census takes no longer than 3-4 minutes. Asked about the construction that we're doing on Saturdays – how many construction sites do we have working on Saturdays? Is it the same type of construction that we have Monday through Friday, or is it modified for the weekend?

**Town Manager** stated that all of them are available to work on Saturday and we have 33 construction sites in Town. The only difference is the times, 9 to 5. During the week it's 8 to 6 pm.

#### **Councilmember Bernstein**

Applauded all of the Town's staff and how they have handled all of this. Inquired about all of the Town events, thought they were cancelled through the end of the year not just summer. The 12 cases that you talked about, he asked if that is the total that we have had since the beginning of it or are they new ones.

**Town Manager** stated that is correct they do not report to him when they are no longer testing positive just the new ones they have.

#### **Councilmember Mendal**

Sent his condolences to Chief Herbello on the passing of his mother. As far as the census goes, I know we said 55%, asked do we have any idea of who has filled them out. Also, asked are dog parks opening up in June too?

**Town Manager** stated that no – tot lots, gym equipment and dog parks remain closed.

**Councilmember Lusskin** asked if the Town Manager can give an update about the sewage spill in Miami-Dade County.

### **I. TOWN MANAGER REPORT**

Expressed his sympathies to Chief Herbello and his family. The Town will be participating in the services this coming Thursday. Went over some of the major issues we've been dealing with in Town the last couple of days. All six of our pumps were working as designed. The reason why we had flooding was because of the mulch in Town that's clogging our drains. So today, we modified our hurricane plan. Whenever

there is a tropical storm/hurricane warning issue, we will remove all of the mulch in Town. Because now we know that the mulch causes a delay for our pumps. There is a project that you approved to make some modifications to Singer Park, the 100 block, North Park, and South Park which will bring additional relief. There has also been identified the need for a new catch basin at The Strand at the north side of 399 Golden Beach Drive. Will discuss further during the discussion item, but wanted to highlight that the pumps are working just fine. He has gone over our budget with the Mayor and feels very comfortable with our budget. We are on pins and needles, as our June 1<sup>st</sup> estimate is coming next week and that will give us an estimate of our assessed values. We are providing free chlorine tablets to our residents. Councilmember Bernstein, you are correct the memo does read through the end of the year, the word missing is fiscal – the events will be cancelled through the end of the fiscal year. Some good news FEMA approved the replacement of our \$80,000 sweeper. It took him and Maria a lot of work to convince FEMA that the sweeper was damaged during IRMA. We are looking at ways to bring in additional revenues to the Town. As it relates to the gates, we are going to unlock the gates starting tomorrow morning as several of our construction workers come to Town via bus. A reminder to our residents, if you are in need of masks, hand sanitizer or gloves, please notify the substation and we will provide you with these things.

#### **J. TOWN ATTORNEY REPORT**

None

#### **K. ORDINANCES – SECOND READING**

None

#### **L. ORDINANCES - FIRST READING**

None

#### **M. QUASI JUDICIAL RESOLUTIONS**

None

#### **N. CIVIC CENTER COMPLEX MASTERPLAN UPDATE**

**Town Manager** stated that he feels very confident that the project should not be delayed. Pledged only \$200,000 of our operating budget to the project. The goal is to get a contract to you for ratification at your next meeting. The building will be COVID friendly. Seems that the project will come in at \$5.3-million. Steve is working on putting together a contract. Will be presented with this package on Friday and will meet with you one-on-one to review it. Mayor has set a deadline of breaking ground in December. Thinks we can start on the civil work sometime in October. We need to make some changes to the building – wanted to make sure that the building was COVID friendly such as having a hand washing station as soon as you walk into the building. Had to change the A/C system and wanted to make some of the windows be able to open. We will get the packets and the floor plans out by Friday. In addition to the civic center project, we need to find money for this building and the annex. The Mayor has authorized him and he has been working the past month on a grant for these two

buildings. Another reason we feel confident we can keep the project moving is because if the governor does not veto it, we will receive \$500,000 from the state for our stormwater project.

**Councilmember Bernstein** asked a question about construction. So many construction projects that are not going forward right now. Is the fact that labor is more available, is that something that we'll be able to utilize are we locked into the price or can it help with the negotiations.

**Town Manager** stated that he thinks it will help us, but as it relates to the contract, I do not see them foregoing that part.

**Mayor Singer** told the Town Attorney that they need to get this contract ready for the next meeting.

**Town Attorney** stated that the agreement is pretty much finalized, just pushing a two year warranty where they typically only offer a 1 year warranty on the construction.

**Mayor Singer** stated that even if they could refinance, it is not significant enough to even look into.

**Vice Mayor Einstein** asked where we stand on our locked interest rate with the bank

**Town Manager** stated there has not been a significant change in the market, but it is something that the Mayor has already asked the bank indirectly to look at. Asked Maria what the current rate is.

**Finance Director Camacho** stated that is it currently at 2.98%.

**Councilmember Mendal** asked if they have already taken a draw out from the loan.

**Town Manager** stated yes, they were required to take a \$250,000 draw out on the loan.

## **O. CONSENT AGENDA**

- 1. Official Minutes of the April 28, 2020 Special Town Council Zoom Virtual Meeting**
- 2. A Resolution of the Town Council Approving A Mutual Aid Agreement between the Town and the City of Hallandale Beach.**

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH, FLORIDA, APPROVING A MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF HALLANDALE BEACH AND THE TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH; PROVIDING FOR IMPLEMENTATION; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

**Exhibit:** Agenda Report No. 2  
Resolution No. 2673.20

**Sponsor:** Town Administration

**Recommendation:** Motion to Approve Resolution No. 2673.20

**3. A Resolution of the Town Council Authorizing the Use of Law Enforcement Trust Fund (LETF) Monies To Make A \$2,500 Contribution to Teach for America.**

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE USE OF LAW ENFORCEMENT TRUST FUND (LETF) MONIES TO MAKE A \$2,500 CONTRIBUTION TO TEACH FOR AMERICA (TFA); PROVIDING FOR IMPLEMENTATION; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

**Exhibit:** Agenda Report No. 3  
Resolution No. 2676.20

**Sponsor:** Town Administration

**Recommendation:** Motion to Approve Resolution No. 2676.20

**4. A Resolution of the Town Council Authorizing the Use of Law Enforcement Trust Fund (LEFT) Monies to Make a \$500 Contribution to the American Heart Association.**

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE USE OF LAW ENFORCEMENT TRUST FUND (LETF) MONIES TO MAKE A \$500.00 CONTRIBUTION TO THE AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION; PROVIDING FOR IMPLEMENTATION; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

**Exhibit:** Agenda Report No. 4  
Resolution No. 2677.20

**Sponsor:** Town Administration

**Recommendation:** Motion to Approve Resolution No. 2677.20

Consensus vote 4 Ayes, 0 Nays. Items O1 – O4 pass. \*\*\*\* Councilmember Lusskin stepped away during the vote. \*\*\*\*

**P. TOWN RESOLUTIONS**

**5. A Resolution of the Town Council Accepting the Financial Statements and Single Audit for Fiscal Year 2018/2019.**

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH, FLORIDA, ACCEPTING THE

GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND THE SINGLE AUDIT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018/2019 ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2019, PREPARED BY KEEFE, MCCULLOUGH & CO., LLP; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

**Exhibit:** Agenda Report No. 5  
Resolution No. 2678.20

**Sponsor:** Town Administration

**Recommendation:** Motion to Approve Resolution No. 2678.20

A motion to approve was made by Mayor Singer, seconded by Councilmember Mendal.

On roll call, the following vote ensued:

Mayor Glenn Singer	<u>Aye</u>
Vice Mayor Bernard Einstein	<u>Aye</u>
Councilmember Judy Lusskin	<u>Aye</u>
Councilmember Jaime Mendal	<u>Aye</u>
Councilmember Kenneth Bernstein	<u>Aye</u>

The motion passed.

**Town Manager** spoke on the item. Stated that this is the 6<sup>th</sup> year in a row that we have no findings on the audit in terms of our internal control. Our finances go through a stringent review process. Pleased to announce through our efforts collectively, we were able to hold spending \$615,604 from last year's budget. The big area that you all have concerns with, our Fund Balance number. Our Fund Balance last year was set to \$5.1-million. We always knew that was an inflated number because part of that money was capital construction dollars that were never going to materialize or be utilized. By your, action and authority you allowed me to write it off his past year. The Fund Balance will be set at \$2.5-million, \$1.6 million of that is due to the Town from the Stormwater Fund, leaving us with approximately \$700,000 cash on hand. We are doing pretty well. That \$700,000 does not take into account the money we took in from FEMA for IRMA because that posted in this year's budget. It also does not account for the additional \$140,000 that we are expecting from FEMA this year. Pleased to say that we have an excess of 20% of the Town's budget in reserves should we need it. Reminded the Council that this year we are facing some financial constraints as it relates to our Building Department revenues. Feels optimistic that we are going to see a lot more Building Department permits coming through soon. When you look at the pension number, do not be alarmed that the numbers increased in the unfunded liability portion. It grew by \$1.3-million. Not because anything happened with the pension, it is because the mortality rate changed. It was a significant increase, but not because the pension did not perform, because of how the actuarial calculates the payment. Every city in Florida saw a significant jump to their unfunded liability because the state required that the assumptions be uniform all across the board. Congratulated Maria and her team for helping keep the Town's finances stable. Auditors did share with him that the Council and he should take on a more aggressive approach to pay off the stormwater fee. Feels that the stormwater fee is paying the Town at an acceptable rate. Because we are fully

insured for our major items, the need for that cash is not imperative. No hurry to get that money collected.

**Councilmember Mendal** stated that as long as it is not cost prohibitive would like us to rotate our auditors. Also asked what our current liability with the pension fund is.

**Town Manager** stated that the true number of cash needed to make that unfunded number more comfortable is \$900,000. It increased this year by a significant number because of the assumptions that were changed. We did in this year's budget add more money to fund and draw down that unfunded liability. We may exercise our management rights to not fully fund that should we need to hold off. It was a recommended number, this Administration wanted to bring that number to a more manageable number but then COVID-19 happened. Before we send a dollar to what is actually required this year, the Mayor and he will have a conversation as to whether or not we are financially able to do so or can we defer that for one more year.

## **Q. DISCUSSION & DIRECTION TO TOWN MANAGER**

Mayor Glenn Singer:

- Construction Sites

He made a decision to open the construction sites for as many workers as they need. They will be keeping social distancing, and will be wearing masks. We have delayed construction for all the sites under construction for two months. We want to let them catch up and get completed as soon as possible.

**Councilmember Mendal** stated that he has received calls from residents that they do not think it is fair that they have to spend six consecutive days with construction. They feel that they do not get a break from the construction.

**Mayor Singer** asked if what is bothering them is the noise.

**Councilmember Mendal** stated that yes, it is the noise. And he's gotten phone calls from two different residents at two different construction sites.

**Mayor Singer** stated that they are going to let them work on Saturdays through August 31<sup>st</sup>. Stated that Councilmember Mendal should refer those residents to the Town Manager and maybe the Town Manager can discuss it with the sites. But he believes that letting them go through August 31<sup>st</sup> would be a big relief for the construction sites.

**Town Manager** stated that they are going to prohibit deliveries during the weekend, which should address some of the noise issues.

**Mayor Singer** stated that the problem with the blowers is that it is before 9 a.m.

**Town Manager** instructed the lieutenant to make sure that they are not allowed to begin work before 9 a.m.

Vice Mayor Bernard Einstein:  
None Requested

Councilmember Judy Lusskin:

- Pedestrian Gates

Stated that she has gotten a few phone calls from residents who were disturbed that they could not get in because they were locked, but that was remedied today with them being reopened tomorrow. Feels that we need to come up with a solution to remedy the issues with the gates once in for all.

**Town Manager** stated that as part of our civic center planning, we are going to put key fobs on the gates so that you cannot get in if you do not have a key fob.

Councilmember Jaime Mendal:

- Flooding

Stated he has gotten a lot of calls regarding flooding. Wanted to give the Town Manager a quick opportunity to explain to the public what was done. Knows that the mulch does explain a big part of it, but what concerned him the most was that there was flooding afterwards and it happened during a time that there was low tide, which was not something that was occurring before.

**Town Manager** stated that there was not a city in Dade County that did not experience flooding this weekend. The system is supposed to drain the streets once the volume of water starts to decrease. Should always expect to have some flooding and some standing water in the streets, but our system works. You will always have flooding, hopefully not as severe as we had yesterday and hopefully it will clear out faster than it did this weekend. Stated that by adding another catch basin at The Strand we are going to alleviate a lot of these issues.

Councilmember Kenneth Bernstein:  
None Requested

Town Manager Alexander Diaz

- Recycling Program

He has cancelled the contract with our recycling company, going to take recycling in house which will save us \$25,000-\$30,000 per year. Most of our residents were not properly recycling, we were only getting 40% participation in Town. This will get us a better participation rate. All of our most eco-friendly residents have all signed off on doing this. Starting this program effective immediately to realize the savings and see a better participation rate.

- Boat Dock Veterans Memorial Park

Because we are getting ready to bid the Center Island Pump Station Program, we are rolling in the Veteran's Memorial program into it. Needs to see if the Council is interested in rolling in a Veteran's Memorial area to the boat dock as part of the Center Island Pump Station design.

**Mayor Singer** stated that the only thing he would add, and does not know if it is feasible, is a concrete bench to where the flag is.

**Town Manger** stated that they could add some benches to the back.

**Councilmember Lusskin** asked if the memorial would be added to the back.

**Town Manager** stated that as more names are added, they could add more pillars to the back.

**Vice Mayor Einstein** asked if in terms of the original design of that, wasn't it supposed to be a boat dock for people who didn't have a boat dock in their homes.

**Town Manager** stated that back when Dr. Feinman was on council that was proposed, but this council decided to do otherwise. They had also proposed a gazebo, but felt like by making it passive it would get more use.

**Councilmember Bernstein** stated that he sees cars parked there but it was supposed to be a park intended for Golden Beach residents.

**Town Manager** stated there are four parking places that have been there and are predominantly used by the police department for when they are in the water.

**Councilmember Bernstein** suggested we remove them.

**Mayor Singer** stated that we cannot, the police department needs them.

**Vice Mayor Einstein** asked where the pump station is located.

**Town Manager** stated that they are underneath the parking.

**Vice Mayor Einstein** asked if everything is going to be underground.

**Town Manager** stated no the control panels are above ground.

**Town Manager** asked Council to hold off the 16<sup>th</sup> and the 23<sup>rd</sup> for now as possible council meeting dates.

**Town Attorney** stated that the Governor has indicated that he is going to keep zoom public meetings until the emergency has been lifted.

**Councilmember Lusskin** asked how long they'll be under emergency conditions.

**Town Attorney** stated that he suspects that they will be under some kind of emergency order from the Governor for several months.

## **R. ADJOURNMENT:**

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A motion to adjourn the Council Meeting was made by Mayor Singer seconded by Councilmember Lusskin

Consensus vote 5 Ayes 0 Nays. Motion passes.

The meeting adjourned at 6:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Lissette Perez*  
Lissette Perez  
Town Clerk