



TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH

One Golden Beach Drive
Golden Beach, FL 33160

Official Minutes for the February 15, 2022
Regular Town Council Meeting called for 6:00 P.M.

Zoom Room Meeting ID: 852 9212 2955 Password: 951077

For Dial In Only: Call 929.205.6099 Meeting ID: 852 9212 2955

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 BY 2:00 P.M. TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2022.

A. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Mayor Singer called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

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

Staff Present: Town Manager Alexander Diaz, Town Attorney Steve Helfman, Town Clerk Lissette Perez, Finance Director Maria Camacho (via zoom), Building and Zoning Director Linda Epperson (via zoom), Resident Services Director Michael Glidden (via zoom), Capital Improvement Projects Director Lissett Rovira (via zoom).

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Lieutenant Diaz led the Pledge of Allegiance

D. PRESENTATIONS / TOWN PROCLAMATIONS

None

E. MOTION TO SET THE AGENDA

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

F. GOOD AND WELFARE

Mrs. Lydia Eskenazi, 660 Golden Beach Drive, spoke on the item concerning the Wall at Massini Avenue. Voicing her support for that item and that the current fence there is not a good one and that she hopes the Council will vote favorably on this item.

G. MAYOR'S REPORT

Congratulated the Town Manager for receiving a grant for the pump station
Congratulate Chief Herbello, Lieutenant Diaz, Lieutenant Perez, and Sergeant Soca for putting together the multi-agency task force.

H. CORONAVIRUS UPDATE

Town Manager spoke on this item stating that the town is now offering a concierge service. We do have the PCR tests available to our residents. Those are self-administered and delivered to the homes. Recommend anyone having symptoms to do a PCR before standing in line to get the other test. Providing lysol spray. If you need it, we will provide it to you. We do not intend to have any further onsite testing.

I. COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Bernstein

Congratulated the Town on the pump station. Thanked the Mayor for the lovely letter he sent to the residents. Noticed that the grassy area around the city is looking like it's dying, should evaluate the sprinklers.

Vice Mayor Lusskin

Stated as soon as COVID has died down she would like to do a bagels on the beech again because there are so many new residents in the community that we do not know. Stated that Hotwire has been installed in her home and the graphics are excellent, far more superior to what they had. Thanked the Town for he Valentine's Day gifts. Stated that she didn't realize they can sign up for the alarm system now.

Town Manager stated yes you can.

Councilmember Einstein

Stated a number of items have come to the forefront for the Town. Feel like at some point in time we need to decide on our priorities, how we are going to do this. Asked if the Manager can elaborate on some of the projects so they have an overview of what is in front of them.

Councilmember Mendal

Congratulated the Administration for receiving the grant monies.

J. TOWN MANAGER REPORT

Stated we are aware of some issues going on in North Park with the sod. Also aware of the yellowing grass, our landscape company is working on that. We received \$500,000 of free money that we will not have to pay back for costs associated with pump station number one and making the Town more resilient. Also, had a great week in Tallahassee, we were able to get all three of our projects into a sending bill. Requested money for the bunker. We asked for money for a new wellness center and asked for some portable pumps, to address flooding issues at the intersection of North Island and Navona, South Island and Verona, and at Singer Park. Very limited space to put a permanent pump station in those locations, so we asked for portable pumps and they allocated \$38,000 to that. This money is not secure, we still have to work our way through the senate and hope that it is not vetoed by the governor. We are constantly looking for ways to maximize our money. Reminded the Council that this is an elections year coming up. The qualifying dates are January 2nd through January 6th, 2023. Stated February 24, 2022 will be the topping off ceremony for the new civic center.

K. TOWN ATTORNEY REPORT

None

L. ORDINANCES – SECOND READING

None

M. ORDINANCES - FIRST READING

- 1. An Ordinance of the Town Council Amending the Town of Golden Beach Employees’ Pension Plan To Provide a Pre-Retirement Death Benefit for the Beneficiary of A Vested Member.**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH, FLORIDA, AMENDING CHAPTER 24, “PERSONNEL,” ARTICLE II, “RETIREMENT,” DIVISION 1 “GENERAL EMPLOYEES” BY AMENDING THE TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH EMPLOYEES PENSION PLAN AT SECTION 24-33 “BENEFIT AMOUNTS AND ELIGIBILITY” AND CREATING SECTION 24-40 “TRANSFERS FROM GENERAL EMPLOYEE MEMBER TO POLICE OFFICER MEMBER”; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Exhibit: Agenda Report No. 1
Resolution No. 599.22

Sponsor: Town Administration

Recommendation: Motion to Approve Ordinance No. 599.22

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

On roll call, the following vote ensued:

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

The motion passed.

Town Manager spoke on the item. Thanked the Council for always being open to exploring new possibilities to enhance the benefits for our employees. Employees are extremely appreciative of the fact that we are getting this benefit. What this item does is two fold. One, it allows for general employees to have transition abilities into other

categories in the towns pension programs, right now we have two categories general employees and police. Reminded the Council that this does not apply to him. Stated we have two general employees who were sponsored for the police academy and have graduated, and now are working as law enforcement. Under the current code the members would have to forgo there vested time as a general employee and leave the pension and rejoin as a police officer. What this item does is show you have earned your time as a civilian, you keep your multiplier as a civilian and your clock as a police officer starts now. Two, is what happens to our beneficiaries if we were to depart prematurely and we were not retired. Currently our death benefit only applies if you have an on-the-job related death. Currently your family will only get back what you put into the pension. We thank the Council for the ten-year certain. If you are a retired employee and pass away the family gets the balance of the ten years. One of the questions that came up in conversation with Council – what happens to an employee that leaves us. Do they still get this benefit? He believes that there is a middle ground. Other question that came up is should we hold this out until our negotiations with the police union. I will tell you that I have made it abundantly clear to the union president that this is part of the negotiations for their next contract. Believes theses two changes are in the best interest of the Town. Two news items that recently occured are one of our longest pension board serving members Mr. Peter Manners has tendered his resignation to the board. We are actively looking for a new pension board member. There will be an actuarial report provided to you by second reading as required by state law.

Town Manager stated that what happens if you currently pass away while employed by the Town and it is not job related. Your family only gets back what you contributed with a 5% rate of return.

Mayor Singer state there is three items to discuss. One is if you change it from spouse or children to designated beneficiary. Second, is the length of service, is 10 years sufficient. Three, is the whole ordinance.

Councilmember Bernstein stated he is supportive of everything. Thinks we should be rewarding our employees. Not sue how he feels about someone who has been with us 10 years and leaves. Think we should come up with criteria after you work 10 years how much you should get.

Vice Mayor Lusskin stated she is very supportive. Asked if you can change your beneficiary at anytime.

Town Manager you are allowed to update and encouraged to do so at every open enrollment, and throughout the year.

Councilmember Einstein asked how this works in terms of the amount of the benefit.

Town Manager stated he cannot give you a number because every one of our employees has a unique salary and there multipliers are unique to their years of service.

Councilmember Einstein asked if the actuarial could go out and buy a term policy for these people?

Mayor Singer stated no, it is an investment that is part of the pension. If something like that happens, it comes out of the pension reserves.

Councilmember Einstein asked if you can amend this.

Mayor Singer stated yes you can.

Town Attorney stated not for police officers.

Councilmember Einstein stated that for him personally this is complicated.

Town Manager stated that we are not reinventing the wheel here. What we are doing is taking responsible moves to offer our employees benefits while not negatively impacting the resources of the Town. Stated the market and work force has changed, he has heard from other members “if they want to they can go work somewhere else” that is the wrong attitude to have. The attitude should be that we should be as adaptive to the market to make sure that the employees that are loyal to us continue to be loyal to us. At a point in our history as a community we need to start making aggressive decisions as it relates to our budget and how competitive we are. It is unfair that we have directors who wear six titles and do not make \$100,000, where there are communities smaller than us where the director only wears one hat and makes \$120,000.

Mayor Singer clarified that if we go back to the example that he used, if you take 10% of our workforce and they all pass away it is going to cost the pension \$90,000 a year. Is it going to have a huge impact on a \$12-million pension? No. So when you go through the numbers its not like we are paying \$150,000 to every employee. We always stress that Golden Beach is an elite community and we want the top notch, to keep that reputation and to keep that service we provide we need to keep our employees for a long time. We have very little turnover. In today’s society, employees are leaving after 1 year or 2 years. You know how hard it is to train your employees. I do not want average benefits; I want people to say I want to work for Golden Beach. You need to look at the long-term picture – do we want turnover or do we want to keep the longevity of the employees.

Councilmember Mendal asked what is the percentage right now of the pension that is unfunded.

Town Manager stated that the unfunded liability is based on how we fund it

Councilmember Mendal does not think that this could put so much stress on the pension itself because we are so well-funded. To Councilman Bernstein’s point, obviously, we want to reward longevity, we want to reward loyalty.

Councilmember Bernstein stated that to try to keep people, we want to look at decreasing it for employees who leave.

Mayor Singer stated this is not going to keep or make someone leave it is just an added benefit.

**Asked if everyone is ok with the designated beneficiary? All said yes.

**Asked if all in agreement with the change of status? All said yes

Mayor Singer asked to make a recommendation to vote on the ordinance subject to what the actuary comes back with in his report.

Town Manager stated let us pass it on first reading with the changes currently. In addition, if we want to change the other part we can do it at second reading.

N. QUASI JUDICIAL RESOLUTIONS

None

O. TOWN MAJOR PROJECTS UPDATE

- Center Island Pump Station and Roadway Report
- Civic Center Construction Update
- Special Assessment Setting by SCS Engineers
- **** Town Manager requested to add Hotwire to the projects list ****

Town Manager stated as it relates to the Center Island Pump Station, FPL finally delivered the transformer we are going to go live with in the coming weeks. There were some asphalt issues. Stated that Hotwire is moving aggressively, there have been some restoration issues and we are working with them to make sure the restoration takes place. As of this afternoon, there have been 31 completed homes. There are still unfortunately 160 homes who have not been surveyed. Reminder to our residents, whether or not you meet with us, you will be paying the assessment. At the very least have the consultation so you can learn about the service, because you will be paying for it even if you do not accept the service. We are working on solving some of the staff issues with the residents. There has been this question as to why am I not receiving certain speeds? If your device does not accept the high speed, you will not get that reading on your device. As it relates to the cable and as it relates to the bills that were recently sent out, the charges for the internet were on there and you are not paying for internet right now, so that has to come out. We are guaranteed that a certain rate should reach a certain market saturation, if we do not meet that number that goes away. Only 31 homes have been connected. Still have a lot more homes that we are building the infrastructure for.

Councilmember Einstein asked about the 1 gig speed issue to the homes. Mentioned that the staff that we have for Hotwire – Jessica and Rafi are very responsive.

Town Manager stated that the building is going great, rate study is going great. Wanted to talk about the item Councilmember Einstein asked about in regards to priorities and our budget. Every year during our budget process we have a dialogue about future projects. Your long-term unfunded projects are listed in the current budget. As we identify dollars throughout the course of the year, we try to move down the line. We are not going to wait until the next budget process to move those projects forward. We talk about it, if the Council either adds or takes projects off the list. It is this Council's job to decide if we are going to move projects into the funded phase or not.

P. CONSENT AGENDA

2. Official Minutes of the January 18, 2022 Regular Town Council Meeting

3. A Resolution of the Town Council Authorizing the Purchase of Software to Assist the Town's Police Department with Dispatch Operations.

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF MOBILE ARCHITECTURE FOR COMMUNICATIONS HANDLING (MACH) SOFTWARE TO ASSIST THE TOWN'S POLICE DEPARTMENT WITH DISPATCH OPERATIONS; PROVIDING FOR IMPLEMENTATION; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Exhibit: Agenda Report No. 3
Resolution No. 2797.22

Sponsor: Town Administration

Recommendation: Motion to Approve Resolution No. 2797.22

4. A Resolution of the Town Council Approving the Agreement Between the Office of the State Attorney and the Town.

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH, FLORIDA APPROVING THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE OFFICE OF THE STATE ATTORNEY OF THE ELEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA AND THE TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH; PROVIDING FOR IMPLEMENTATION AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Exhibit: Agenda Report No. 4
Resolution No. 2798.22

Sponsor: Town Administration

Recommendation: Motion to Approve Resolution No. 2798.22

5. A Resolution of the Town Council Authorizing the Sale of One Surplus Police Vehicle And One Polaris Ranger from the Town's Vehicle Fleet.

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF ONE SURPLUS POLICE VEHICLE AND ONE POLARIS RANGER FROM THE TOWN'S VEHICLE/EQUIPMENT FLEET; PROVIDING FOR IMPLEMENTATION; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Exhibit: Agenda Report No. 5
Resolution No. 2799.22

Sponsor: Town Administration

Recommendation: Motion to Approve Resolution No. 2799.22

6. A Resolution of the Town Council Approving the Proposal from Southeastern Engineering for curbs, gutters and pavement repairs on North Parkway.

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING A CONTRACT WITH SOUTHEASTERN ENGINEERING CONTRACTORS, INC. FOR ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS WITHIN NORTH PARKWAY; PROVIDING FOR WAIVER OF COMPETITIVE BIDDING; PROVIDING FOR IMPLEMENTATION; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Exhibit: Agenda Report No. 6
Resolution No. 2800.22

Sponsor: Town Administration

Recommendation: Motion to Approve Resolution No. 2800.22

7. A Resolution of the Town Council Approving the Proposal from Southeastern Engineering Contractors, Inc. for Stormwater System Improvements within Town.

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING A CONTRACT WITH SOUTHEASTERN ENGINEERING CONTRACTORS, INC. FOR STORMWATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS WITHIN TOWN; PROVIDING FOR WAIVER OF COMPETITIVE BIDDING; PROVIDING FOR IMPLEMENTATION; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Exhibit: Agenda Report No. 7
Resolution No. 2801.22

Sponsor: Town Administration

Recommendation: Motion to Approve Resolution No. 2801.22

8. A Resolution of the Town Council Establishing a Personnel Board.

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH, FLORIDA, ESTABLISHING A PERSONNEL BOARD, PURSUANT TO SECTION 3.04 OF THE TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH CHARTER; PROVIDING

FOR INTENT; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Exhibit: Agenda Report No. 8
Resolution No. 2802.22

Sponsor: Town Administration

Recommendation: Motion to Approve Resolution No. 2802.22

Consensus vote 5 Ayes, 0 Nays. Items P2 – P8 pass.

Q. TOWN RESOLUTIONS

9. A Resolution of the Town Council Approving the Construction of Privacy Walls on Massini and Terracina Avenues.

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH, FLORIDA, APPROVING A PROPOSAL FROM PERMACAST WALLS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A PRIVACY WALL ON MASSINI AND TERRACINA AVENUES; PROVIDING FOR A WAIVER OF COMPETITIVE BIDDING PROCEDURES; PROVIDING FOR IMPLEMENTATION; PROVIDING FOR AUTHORIZATION; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Exhibit: Agenda Report No. 9
Resolution No. 2803.22

Sponsor: Town Administration

Recommendation: Motion to Approve Resolution No. 2803.22

A motion to approve was made by Councilmember Einstein, seconded by Councilmember Bernstein.

On roll call, the following vote ensued:

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

The motion passed.

Town Manager spoke on the item stating that we are asking for a waiver of the bid process because we did go out and receive three different proposals. Although the approach from all these firms are unique to their proposal, two firms proposed a masonry wall. Permacast stated that the way they would install the wall is using

columns and panels that slide into place. Permacast walls are not road rated walls, they are similar to the walls on I-95, but they are not road rated walls, they are privacy walls. There is a shared right-of-way with Hallandale, and because it is not a roadway, we decided to go with a privacy wall. We are able to get this wall installed in two locations for \$317,000. The goal at both sites is to save the green space that is already there. There will be a high chance of survival of the landscaping that is there because the only area that we will trench is where the columns will go.

Mayor Singer stated that the Town Manager and him did approach the City of Hallandale to see if they would pay for a portion of it, and they wouldn't budge.

Town Manager stated that they are going through their own hardships but did work with the Town to forgo the permitting process and not delay the project any more.

Councilmember Einstein asked how high the wall would be.

Town Manager stated 10 feet.

Councilmember Einstein asked if the company guarantees that the fence will stand upright.

Town Manager stated that they did conduct a soil sample of that whole area. With that system we won't have this issue because the columns are on piles

Mayor Singer asked if because of the roots that are there are, is the wall going to be different heights.

Town Manager stated no, what he meant is that there is no clearing of roots to put a footing where the walls will be slid in, there is only footing where the columns are going to go.

Vice Mayor Lusskin spoke on why she supports doing this. It is literally held together on one part with barbwire, which is absurd for a Town of this stature. Security, security, security. A breach in any part of the Town is a breach in every part of this Town. It separates two counties – to separate two counties with a barbwire fence is absurd. And her last point is it's a bargain with the price right now.

Councilmen Einstein in terms of security, the walkers are getting access to the Town. You have a tremendous amount of people, and they have a right to be here, but if we can have a deterrent.

Mayor Singer stated that they don't bother anyone.

Town Manager stated that the fob system that you have already approved will help with that and we made accommodations for the Chabad. The reason why it is affordable is because we've made concessions on the material that we are using. By the end of March we will have installed at every street end a new fence system similar to that of the bus station. Mayor Singer directed him to do that last year. Now we put in all new aluminum fences with new doors and new locks, and as part of the current proposal we are working on for proximity cameras, we intend to put more cameras on the median to create a geofence to become more fortified as a community. Loves how flexible we

have become. We plan to pay for this using the amazing savings that your staff was able to provide to you in last year's budget.

Councilmember Bernstein stated that he fully supports it.

10. A Resolution of the Town Council Assigning Each Councilmember the Duty to Inquire Into the Operation of a Particular Area of Town Operation.

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH, FLORIDA ASSIGNING EACH COUNCILMEMBER THE DUTY TO INQUIRE INTO THE OPERATION OF A PARTICULAR AREA OF GOVERNMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICT; PROVIDING FOR IMPLEMENTATION; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Exhibit: Agenda Report No. 10
Resolution No. 2804.22

Sponsor: Town Administration

Recommendation: Motion to Approve Resolution No. 2804.22

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

On roll call, the following vote ensued:

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

The motion passed.

Mayor Singer stated we do this every year. I am moving to general government, Vice Mayor Lusskin is Finance Department, Councilmember Bernstein is Police Department, Councilmember Mendal will be working with the Public Works Department, and Councilmember Einstein will be working with the Building and Zoning Department.

R. DISCUSSION & DIRECTION TO TOWN MANAGER

Mayor Glenn Singer:
None Requested

Vice Mayor Judy Lusskin:
None Requested

Councilmember Bernard Einstein:
None Requested

Councilmember Jaime Mendal:
None Requested

Councilmember Kenneth Bernstein:
None Requested

Town Manager Alexander Diaz
None Requested

Town Manager confirmed that the March meeting will be March 15, 2022 at 6:00 P.M.

S. ADJOURNMENT:

A motion to adjourn the Council Meeting was made by Councilmember Bernstein seconded by Councilmember Einstein.

Consensus vote 5 Ayes 0 Nays. Motion passes.

The meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lissette Perez
Lissette Perez
Town Clerk