

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF BONITA SPRINGS
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2017
9:00 A.M.
CITY HALL
9101 BONITA BEACH ROAD
BONITA SPRINGS, FLORIDA 34135
MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Peter Simmons called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M.

II. INVOCATION

Ann Grandell, with Gulfshore Church, furnished the invocation.

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

At the request of Mayor Simmons, Council Member Steve Slachta led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. ROLL CALL

Mayor Simmons and all Council Members were in attendance, except for Council Member Amy Quaremba, and with Council Member Mike Gibson participating via phone.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

9:03:15 am Rick Steinmeyer spoke of how everyone has come together to help each other. It's great!

9:03:58 am Tori Polonitza addressed flooding that has occurred in various areas of the city as a result of Hurricane Irma, and over the years, and suggested potential solutions involving the SFWMD, etc.

9:06:13 AM Martha Simons thanked Council and feels blessed. Supports the creation of a stormwater assessment in the City.

Council Member Peter O'Flinn entered a motion finding an extraordinary circumstance, and authorizing Council Member Mike Gibson to participate in the meeting via phone; Mayor Simmons seconded; and the motion carried unanimously.

9:11:28 AM Mayor Simmons and Council Member Steve Slachta thanked Don Manley for all his help to residents of the City. Mr. Manley and his wife were in attendance to address activities and work to date to help residents. Council Mayor Simmons thanked Pastor Pratt for hosting the FEMA Town Hall scheduled for this Friday evening.

9:19:02 AM Pastor Doug Pratt addressed services the various churches are offering for assistance to residents.

9:23:59 AM Ann Grandell, with Love, Inc., informed everyone that they are ready willing and able to help in any way they can.

[9:24:42 AM](#) Laura Carr informed everyone that the Bonita Assistance Office will be handing out homemade soups, breads, etc.

[9:25:22 AM](#) Thomas Hecker, Executive Director of the Bonita Springs Wonder Gardens, furnished City Council with an update on the condition of the Bonita Springs Wonder Gardens and help they received. No animals were hurt during the storm.

VI. PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS:

- A. PRESENTATION OF 5 YEARS OF SERVICE AWARD TO CITY EMPLOYEE COLLEEN KLAUDINYI.
- B. RECOGNITION OF FINANCE STAFF ON BEING AWARDED THE CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT FOR EXCELLENCE IN FINANCIAL REPORTING. (GREENSHEET NO. 17-09-0330)

Informational.

- C. HURRICANE IRMA UPDATE.

[9:32:46 AM](#) Council Member Peter O'Flinn motioned approval of the Resolution to extend the Emergency Resolution relating to Hurricane Irma; Mayor Simmons seconded; and the motion carried unanimously. **ADOPTED RESOLUTION NO. 17-50**

[9:34:16 AM](#) City Manager Carl Schwing introduced this item and those entities in attendance who helped before, during and after the storm. He also provided a brief update on recovery efforts thus far. He thanked all involved including City staff, the Lee County Sheriff's Office, the Mayor and City Council Members, Bonita Springs Utilities, South Florida Water Management District, and the Bonita Springs Assistance Office.

[9:48:02 am](#) Lora Taylor, Communications Director, next furnished a PowerPoint presentation on Hurricane Irma (copy in Clerk's file). Also in attendance was Lee County Sheriff's Office Captain Blake Lee and Fire Chief Joe Daigle to address efforts made by the Sheriff's Office and the fire district.

[10:15:59 AM](#) Postmasters from Naples and Bonita Springs were in attendance to address mail service, and John Jenkins with Bonita Springs Utilities was in attendance to provide an update on Bonita Springs Utilities as a result of Hurricane Irma.

Council consensus to defer addressing the memorandum from Council Member Amy Quaremba of items she observed until she is present. Council Member Fred Forbes addressed the need for the City to have post mortem on those things that can be improved upon and what the City can ask the County to do better, etc. He suggested holding sessions in Room 118.

[10:53:23 AM](#) Council Member Peter O'Flinn referred to Sports Club and the fees shown. He referred to those residents that are flooded out and asked if accommodations can be made for them. Nicole Perino, Parks and Recreation Director, responded, explaining that if there is a need they do need to contact Sports Club, who will make accommodations. Council Member O'Flinn requested the City Manager look into that more. Council Member O'Flinn questioned whether bacterial counts were being conducted in those areas that flooded. City Manager Schwing to check on the status.

Council Member O'Flinn next referred to comments made by Ms. Polonitza relating to future work that needs to be done to address the issues, which he agrees.

10:59:17 AM Parks and Recreation Director Nicole Perino next furnished Council on an assessment conducted on City Parks and facilities. No parks are open except for the two parks on Hickory Boulevard. The band shell is fine.

Council Member O’Flinn questioned the number of homes that were affected by water, to which City Manager Schwing stated they would know that tomorrow (Thursday). They are conducting that assessment now. Council Member O’Flinn asked the City Manager to check to see, in the State lands east of Bonita Grande, if there are lands that are being surplus, or are for sale there. He asked to also check Bonita Beach Road.

VII. CONSENT AGENDA: (NOTE: ITEMS ON THE CONSENT AGENDA WILL BE CONSIDERED AS ONE UNLESS A SPECIFIC ITEM IS REMOVED BY A COUNCIL MEMBER FOR SEPARATE DISCUSSION.)

No items.

VIII. MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBER ITEMS:

DETERMINE COST TO RESTORE WONDER GARDENS (FORBES; GREENSHEET NO. 17-09-0359)

11:11:11 AM Council Member Fred Forbes addressed this item as reflected in his Greensheet, of which the intent is to determine quickly the cost to restore versus what insurance proceeds would be and look at other options, and see if there would be a shortfall. He next addressed his recommended options, explaining that he would suggest looking at the insurance coverage in the insurance policy, then have the building official and himself can look at the facility. They may then need to employ a construction manager to determine their best estimate on what it would cost to restore it. City Attorney Vance informed council that she’s working with the City’s special consultant on the issues relating to this so that the City Manager and City Council can make some decisions. Staff to coordinate with the Wonder Gardens on this. City Manager Schwing to coordinate with Thomas Hecker, Executive Director of the Gardens.

11:22:16 AM Council Member O’Flinn thanked Assistant City Manager Arleen Hunter and Public Works Director Matt Feeney for all their hard work associated with the storm.

11:22:44 AM Mayor Simmons thanked all, and addressed the FEMA Town Hall meeting which has been scheduled for this Friday at 6:00 P.M. at the First Presbyterian Church. He also informed everyone of a fundraiser being scheduled by Trek – a bike ride to benefit Bonita Springs. He also thanked Florida Power & Light! He concluded by thanking the Havernick family!!

Council Member Slachta left the meeting at 11:30 A.M.

IX. PUBLIC HEARING:

- A. REQUEST TO VACATE A PORTION OF A UTILITY EASEMENT IN THE HIGHLAND ESTATES SUBDIVISION. THIS REQUEST HAS BEEN MADE TO FACILITATE THE CONSTRUCTION OF A DENTAL OFFICE APPROVED AS A PART OF THE BONITA SOL CPD, (ORD. #17-03). (GREENSHEET NO. 17-09- 0358)

[11:32:08 AM](#) Jay Sweet, Community Development, furnished a brief overview as set out in the Greensheet, which is to vacate a portion of a utility easement in the Highland Estates Subdivision for the construction of a dental office.

No public comments were made.

Council Member O'Flinn motioned to approve; Mayor Simmons seconded; and the motion carried unanimously. **ADOPTED RESOLUTION NO. 17-52**

X. FIRST READING OF THE FOLLOWING ORDINANCE (PUBLIC COMMENT ALLOWED):

- A. AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF BONITA SPRINGS, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE 2017 FIVE YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM ANNUAL UPDATE; PROVIDING FOR LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR EXCLUSION FROM CODIFICATION; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (GREENSHEET NO. 17-09-0356)

[11:34:49 AM](#) Mayor Simmons read the title block of the Ordinance into the record.

No public comments were made.

Council Member O'Flinn motioned to move forward with the second reading and public hearing of the Ordinance on October 4, 2017; Council Member Greg DeWitt seconded.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

[11:36:47 AM](#) John West addressed the need for electric vehicles and charging stations.

The motion carried unanimously.

XI. SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING OF THE FOLLOWING ORDINANCES (PUBLIC COMMENT ALLOWED):

- A. ERRATA SHEET 2 WITH REVISED ORDINANCE: AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BONITA SPRINGS; AMENDING §2-571, SETTING FORTH THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PLANNING AND ZONING FEES; PROVIDING FOR COST RECOVERY FOR CERTAIN CONSULTANTS; PROVIDING FOR A REPEALER, CONFLICTS OF LAW, SEVERABILITY, CODIFICATION, SCRIVENER'S ERRORS, INCLUSION IN CODE AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (GREENSHEET NO. 17-09-0357)

[11:38:19 AM](#) City Attorney Vance read the title block of the Ordinance into the record, stating that she has reviewed the Affidavit of Publication which she found to be legally sufficient. She next addressed revisions made to the Ordinance.

No public comments were made.

Council Member O'Flinn motioned adoption of the Ordinance; Council Member Forbes seconded; and the motion carried unanimously. **ADOPTED ORDINANCE NO. 17-18**

XII. PUBLIC COMMENT:

[11:40:38 AM](#) John West informed City Council of comments made to him from residents during the storm relating to power.

11:46:32 AM Rick Steinmeyer addressed services and trees leaning over on Hickory Boulevard.

XIII. CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT:

ERRATA SHEET 2 – PURSUANT TO FLORIDA STATUTES §286.011(8), NEW DATES FOR CITY COUNCIL TO CONVENE IN A CLOSED ATTORNEY-CLIENT SESSION. THE PRIOR SESSIONS WERE CANCELLED DUE TO HURRICANE IRMA.

11:47:39 AM City Attorney Vance next informed City Council of reschedule dates for the executive sessions.

XIV. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

ERRATA SHEET – UPDATE ON MAYOR'S CHALLENGE (GREENSHEET NO. 17-09-0360)

11:50:59 AM Assistant City Manager Arleen Hunter informed all that the City was waiving permit fees for screen enclosures, roof permits, sheds, dock and shoreline, and fences. She next furnished an update on the Mayor's Challenge. She concluded by thanking everyone for their guidance and support during the storm, including Council Member DeWitt, who saved horses during the storm.

XV. MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS:

12:07:24 PM Council Member O'Flinn reported on a call he received from Phil Flood with the South Florida Water Management District.

12:08:00 pm Council Member Forbes reported that most of the trees that blew over and created the most damage entailed live oaks. He suggested asking Mr. Kirby and the Tree Advisory Board to rethink whether they want to suggest live oaks in the future.

XVI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: 09/06/17

Council Member Forbes motioned approval of the Minutes; Council Member O'Flinn seconded; and the motion carried unanimously.

XVII. PUBLIC COMMENT:

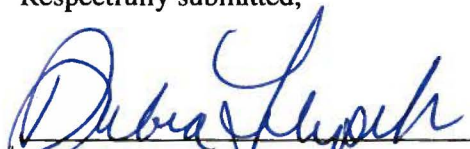
Rick Steinmeyer suggested asking everyone to remove coconuts prior to any future storm.

John West addressed Hurricane Irma.

XVIII. ADJOURNMENT.12:14 PM

There being no further items to discuss the meeting adjourned at 12:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,


Debra Filipek, City Clerk

APPROVED:
BONITA SPRINGS CITY COUNCIL:

Date: 10/9/17

AUTHENTICATED:


Peter Simmons, Mayor