

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION
VILLAGE COUNCIL OF NORTH PALM BEACH, FLORIDA
MARCH 11, 2021**

Present:

Susan Bickel., Mayor
Mark Mullinix, Vice Mayor
David B. Norris, President Pro Tem
Darryl C. Aubrey, Sc.D., Councilmember
Deborah Searcy, Councilmember
Andrew D. Lukasik, Village Manager
Len Rubin, Village Attorney
Jessica Green, Village Clerk

ROLL CALL

Mayor Bickel called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. All members of Council were present. All members of staff were present.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Vice Mayor Mullinix gave the invocation and Mayor Bickel led the public in the Pledge.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the Regular Session held February 25, 2021 were approved as written.

STATEMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Mayor Bickel read into the record a public comment received from Rita Budnyk, 804 Shore Drive. In her comment, Ms. Budnyk expressed concerns regarding over-sized “box” homes being built on residential properties. Ms. Budnyk recommended that the Village draft a code that places limits on the height of residential structures, limits on the width of second story homes and side-front and backyard setback requirements for a home and other structures built on a property.

Mayor Bickel read into the record a public comment received from Patricia Williamson, 849 Fathom Road West. In her comment, Ms. Williamson expressed her concerns regarding trucks speeding down the alleyway along U.S. Highway 1 and the impact on the alleyway traffic if U.S. Highway 1 is narrowed.

ORDINANCE 2021-05 CODE AMENDMENT – CANDIDATE QUALIFYING PERIOD

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Mullinix and seconded by Councilmember Aubrey to adopt on first reading Ordinance 2021-05 entitled:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE VILLAGE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF NORTH PALM BEACH, FLORIDA, AMENDING CHAPTER 10, “ELECTIONS,” ARTICLE I, “IN GENERAL,” OF THE VILLAGE CODE OF ORDINANCES BY AMENDING SECTION 10-5, “CANDIDATES FOR OFFICE; QUALIFYING,” TO AMEND THE QUALIFYING DATES FOR THE VILLAGE’S GENERAL ELECTION; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

ORDINANCE 2021-05 CODE AMENDMENT – CANDIDATE QUALIFYING PERIOD *continued*

Village Clerk Jessica Green explained the reason for the ordinance. Mrs. Green stated that in preparation for the 2021 Municipal Election, the Palm Beach County Supervisor of Elections advised that municipalities who had qualifying periods in January to move them to November or December in order for them to prepare, create, print and mail vote-by-mail ballots. The Villages current qualifying period was the first seven business days of January. The proposed ordinance would move the qualifying period to the first seven business days of December.

Thereafter, the motion to adopt on first reading Ordinance 2021-05 passed with all present voting aye.

There was no ex-parte communication by Council for the following item:

PUBLIC HEARING AND SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE 2021-04 CODE AMENDMENT – THE SHOPPES AT CITY CENTRE COMMERCIAL PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT

A motion was made by President Pro Tem Norris and seconded by Councilmember Aubrey to adopt and enact on second reading Ordinance 2021-04 entitled:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE VILLAGE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF NORTH PALM BEACH, FLORIDA, AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 2010-22 CREATING THE SHOPPES AT CITY CENTRE COMMERCIAL PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT TO GRANT AN ADDITIONAL WAIVER FOR A MULTI-TENANT MONUMENT SIGN; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Principal Planner Alex Ahrenholz explained that the reason for the ordinance was to provide an additional waiver to allow a multi-tenant monument sign for the Shoppes at City Centre.

Mayor Bickel opened the public hearing on the Shoppes at City Centre Commercial Planned Unit Development ordinance.

There being no further comments from the public, Mayor Bickel closed the public hearing.

Thereafter, the motion to adopt and enact on second reading Ordinance 2021-04 passed with all present voting aye.

Mayor Bickel read into the record a public comment received from Kathleen Baummier, 909 Eucalyptus Road. In her comment, Ms. Baummier expressed her concerns regarding the impact of dredge, fill and construction activities in the Lake Worth Lagoon. Ms. Baummier affirmed the Village's opposition of the activities.

CONSENT AGENDA

Councilmember Searcy moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Vice Mayor Mullinix seconded the motion which passed unanimously. The following items were approved:

Receive for file Minutes of the Planning Commission meeting held 2/2/21.

Receive for file Minutes of the Recreation Advisory Board meeting held 2/9/21.

CONSENT AGENDA *continued*

Resolution – Amending Resolution 2020-25 to provide for additional Leave Bank hours for Village Employees due to the Covid-19 Pandemic.

Resolution – Opposing proposed dredge, fill and construction activities within the Lake Worth Lagoon.

Resolution – Repealing Resolution 2006-97 supporting the Adopt-A-Unit Program created by America Supporting Americans and reaffirming the Village’s Support of military units through Support Our Troops USA, Inc.

RESOLUTION 2021-20 – SIDEWALK REMOVAL AND REPLACEMENT BLANKET PURCHASE ORDER

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Mullinix and seconded by President Pro Tem Norris to adopt Resolution 2021-20 entitled:

A RESOLUTION OF THE VILLAGE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF NORTH PALM BEACH, FLORIDA APPROVING A BLANKET PURCHASE ORDER IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$24,563.00 WITH FLYING SCOT, INC. FOR SIDEWALK REMOVAL AND REPLACEMENT UTILIZING PRICING ESTABLISHED IN AN EXISTING CITY OF PALM BEACH GARDENS CONTRACT; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Special Projects Director Chuck Huff explained the purpose of the resolution. Mr. Huff explained that the blanket purchase order was for sidewalk removal and replacement at various streets in the Village.

Vice Mayor Mullinix stated that damages to sidewalks may be caused by planting the improper types of trees. Vice Mayor Mullinix recommended reviewing and updating the code relating to the types of trees that may be planted within the Village.

Thereafter, the motion to adopt Resolution 2021-20 passed with all present voting aye.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL MATTERS/REPORTS

President Pro Tem Norris thanked residents for re-electing him to Council and stated that it was a privilege to serve the community.

Mayor Bickel expressed her appreciation to residents for re-electing her to Council and stated that she was grateful that the residents of the Village believe in the direction that they are headed and in the work that the Council has done.

Mayor Bickel mentioned that a letter was received from Mr. and Mrs. Weber regarding complaints of noise at the Country Club. Mayor Bickel asked Mr. Lukasik to discuss the actions the Village has taken to rectify the situation.

Mr. Lukasik discussed and explained what the Village has done so far to address and resolve the issues of noise coming from the Country Club. Mr. Lukasik stated that staff had been working closely with the Webers to solve the problem. Mr. Lukasik stated that they were currently working on installing Plexiglas barriers around the speakers, amplifiers and percussion instruments. Mr. Lukasik stated that he has asked the Webers to contact the Police Department whenever they are having any issues with noise coming from the Country Club.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL MATTERS/REPORTS *continued*

Mayor Bickel asked if more trees could be planted along the barrier of the Country Club to mitigate noise.

Mr. Lukasik stated that more trees have been planted as a barrier.

Mayor Bickel distributed copies of a resident survey that she had done during her recent campaign. Mayor Bickel stated that the survey went out randomly to approximately 4000 residents and she received 145 responses back. Mayor Bickel discussed and explained the categorization and organization of the responses. Mayor Bickel stated that she was encouraged that most of the responses reflected that the Village was moving in the right direction. Mayor Bickel recommended that resident surveys be done on an annual basis.

Information Technology Director Michael Applegate indicated to Mayor Bickel that Mr. Weber wanted to make a public comment.

Max Weber, 517 Greenway Drive, gave a history of the issues of noise coming from the Country Club that he had experienced. Mr. Weber expressed his concerns regarding the responses he has received from the Village and Police Chief Jenkins with regards to the issues.

Councilmember Searcy thanked Mayor Bickel for conducting the resident survey.

Discussion ensued between Councilmembers regarding the usefulness of the resident survey. It was agreed that the resident survey was useful and that more should be done in the future.

VILLAGE MANAGER MATTERS/REPORTS

Recreation Director Stephen Poh gave an update on the upcoming Heritage Day event in the Village. Mr. Poh stated that staff was proposing the weekend of April 9th to hold the event. There would be a family movie night on Friday night at Anchorage Park and a pool party and family bar b que on Saturday at the Country Club. On Saturday evening there will be food trucks and games at Anchorage Park.

Councilmember Searcy requested an update on Easter festivities.

Recreation Director Stephen Poh gave an update on the upcoming Easter festivities in the Village. Mr. Poh stated that the weekend of April 3rd there would an Easter bunny at Anchorage Park. Residents can drive up through the rear of Anchorage Park and be able to get a socially distanced picture taken with the Easter bunny and would also receive a goodie bag. Reservations are required and will be open to be received beginning next week. Mr. Poh stated that a fire truck would begin riding around the Village with the Easter bunny the weekend of March 27th.

Country Club General Manager Beth Davis stated that on Passover, Farmer's Table would be offering a traditional Seder dinner on March 27th and an Easter brunch on April 4th.

Mr. Poh thanked Mayor Bickel and Councilmember Searcy for coming out and presenting the winning Recreation Youth Soccer League team with their championship trophy.

Mayor Bickel stated that she received emails thanking her and Councilmember Searcy for presenting the trophy. Mayor Bickel recommended that Council should continue to present awards and trophies to the Village's Youth Leagues in the future.

VILLAGE MANAGER MATTERS/REPORTS *continued*

Mr. Lukasik stated that the Jewish Community Synagogue has coordinated a vaccine distribution event on Monday, March 15th. Mr. Lukasik stated that there were possible traffic and coordination issues and that staff has reached out to help.

Mr. Lukasik gave an update regarding the funding that the Village would receive through the American Rescue Plan. Mr. Lukasik stated that the Village may receive approximately 5.5 million dollars and asked Council to begin thinking about a future discussion and or workshop to discuss how to distribute and prioritize the funds.

Mr. Lukasik gave an update on the various Public Works' projects currently taking place throughout the Village.

Mayor Bickel congratulated and thanked Chief Jenkins and the Village's Police Department for the Village receiving another Safest City Award.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:18 p.m.



Jessica Green, MMC, Village Clerk