

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION
VILLAGE COUNCIL OF NORTH PALM BEACH, FLORIDA
APRIL 23, 2020**

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

INTRODUCTION

Mr. Lukasik gave introductory comments and explained that the meeting would be conducted electronically by internet access or telephone.

ROLL CALL

Mayor Bickel called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m. All members of Council were present. All members of staff were present.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Bickel gave the invocation and President Pro Tem Norris led the public in the Pledge.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the Regular Session held April 9, 2020 were approved as written.

STATEMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC, PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Mayor Bickel read into the record a public comment received from Ryan Muller, 720 Cinnamon Road. In his comment, Mr. Muller asked why the boat ramps in the Village continue to be shut down and if there was a tentative date of when they would be re-opened.

Mr. Lukasik explained and gave an update regarding the COVID-19 response and Palm Beach County's Emergency Management Orders that closed and restricted facilities, parks, boat ramps and recreational activities. Mr. Lukasik explained that the restrictions were beginning to lift in phases and that the Village was continuing to follow the County's guidelines and requirements.

Mr. Lukasik gave an update on the Village's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Mr. Lukasik stated that there was a 10% increase in the volume of trash picked up by the Sanitation Department. Crime has decreased by 4% and the Police Department was mostly responding to calls by phone versus in person. Fire Rescue's total call volume has decreased by 41% compared to the same time period last year.

STATEMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC, PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS *continued*

Councilmember Searcy asked why the Fire Rescue Department's calls have decreased.

Mr. Lukasik explained that medical and automobile accident calls have dropped dramatically and stated that it was his hypothesis that the decrease may be due to less people getting ready and on the road to go into work.

Mr. Lukasik gave an update on Village activities that may be cancelled and stated that the Village was operating as normal as possible with some employees working in the office and some employees working remotely from home. Two thirds of part-time employees were still active and approximately half have been furloughed.

Councilmember Searcy asked if the summer camp would be cancelled for the entire summer.

Mr. Lukasik stated that they would have to wait and see how the phases of re-opening the county progressed and would make a decision on when to open up the summer camp based on those phases and progressions.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

Receive for file Minutes of the Infrastructure Surtax Oversight Committee meeting held 1/14/20.

Receive for file Minutes of the General Employees Pension Board meeting held 2/11/20.

Receive for file Minutes of the Library Advisory Board meeting held 2/25/20.

Receive for file Minutes of the Recreation Advisory Board meeting held 3/10/20.

Receive for file Minutes of the Audit Committee meeting held 3/11/20.

RESOLUTION 2020-33 – FIREWORKS DISPLAYS

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Mullinix and seconded by Councilmember Searcy to adopt Resolution 2020-33 entitled:

A RESOLUTION OF THE VILLAGE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF NORTH PALM BEACH, FLORIDA ACCEPTING THE PROPOSAL OF STARFIRE CORPORATION TO PROVIDE JULY 4TH FIREWORKS DISPLAYS AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND VILLAGE CLERK TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT RELATING TO SUCH SERVICES; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Acting Recreation Director Stephen Poh discussed and explained that one proposal was received from Starfire Corporation and that the contract was a three year contract for years 2020 through 2022 at a cost of \$25,000 per year.

Mr. Rubin stated that the contract allows for cancellation and in the event of cancellation, the contract would be extended by one year.

Mayor Bickel asked if the 4th of July event could be changed and rescheduled to another day if it needed to be cancelled.

RESOLUTION 2020-33 – FIREWORKS DISPLAYS *continued*

Mr. Poh stated that he spoke with Starfire Corporation and they stated that they would reschedule the 4th of July event to another date as long as they were notified in sufficient time.

Mr. Rubin stated that language regarding rescheduling of event dates should be included in the contract.

Thereafter, the motion to adopt Resolution 2020-33 and amending the contract to add additional language to provide for alternate event dates in the year 2020, passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION 2020-34 – AMENDMENT TO GOLF COURSE MAINTENANCE CONTRACT

A motion was made by President Pro Tem Norris and seconded by Councilmember Aubrey to adopt Resolution 2020-34 entitled:

A RESOLUTION OF THE VILLAGE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF NORTH PALM BEACH, FLORIDA APPROVING AN AMENDMENT TO THE GOLF COURSE MAINTENANCE CONTRACT WITH BRIGHTVIEW GOLF MAINTENANCE, INC. TO INCLUDE BUNKER REPAIR AND POND REMEDIATION WORK, PROVIDE FOR A PAYMENT SCHEDULE FOR THE ADDITIONAL WORK AND EXTEND THE CONTRACT TERM BY ONE YEAR; AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND VILLAGE CLERK TO EXECUTE THE AMENDMENT; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Head Golf Professional Allan Bowman explained that the grass that was installed on the golf course has done very well and the majority of the golf course looked very good, but the type of grass that was installed does not do well on steep slopes and as a result, the bunkers were in need of repair. Mr. Bowman presented and explained photos of the golf course bunkers that needed repair and photos of what the bunkers should look like.

Mayor Bickel read into the record a public comment received from Jeff Egizio, 1036 Country Club Drive. In his comment, Mr. Egizio discussed the issues with the golf course bunkers and recommended that Council allocate funds to fix the golf course bunkers and lake edges.

President Pro Tem Norris agreed that the golf course was looking great and also agreed that the bunkers needed repair.

Vice Mayor Mullinix stated that the golf course bunkers required repair immediately.

Councilmember Aubrey asked Mr. Bowman about the issues with the edges of the lakes on the golf course.

Mr. Bowman explained that the proposal would take care of the pond with the most pressing need on the golf course which was the pond between the 9th and 18th hole. All of the other ponds would be addressed over time in the future and would hopefully be repaired by Village staff.

Thereafter, the motion to adopt Resolution 2020-34 passed unanimously.

VILLAGE COUNCIL MATTERS/REPORTS

Councilmember Searcy thanked staff for all of their hard work over the past month.

Councilmember Searcy commended Chief Richard Jenkins for his hard work on the State of Florida Opioid Task Force and stated that Chief Jenkins was the only member of the task force that was asked to return for phase two.

Councilmember Searcy commended staff for being a part of all of the committees that are involved with the re-opening of Palm Beach County.

Mr. Lukasik thanked former Palm Beach County Commissioner Karen Marcus for having a part in getting staff involved with the committees that are a part of the re-opening of Palm Beach County.

REPORTS (SPECIAL COMMITTEES AND ADVISORY BOARDS)

Mr. Tom Magill commented on the Audit Committee Annual Report and stated that he was glad to report that there was a 12% increase in unallocated funds. On behalf of the Audit Committee, Mr. Magill commended Finance Director Samia Janjua and her staff for their hard work.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:13 p.m.



Jessica Green, MMC, Village Clerk