



**Town of Surfside
Special Town Commission Meeting
Agenda Streamline
MINUTES
September 15, 2020
6-7 p.m.**

Town Hall Commission Chambers - 9293 Harding Ave, 2nd Floor
Surfside, FL 33154

1. Opening

A. Call to Order

Mayor Burkett called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

B. Roll Call of Members

Town Clerk McCready called the roll with the following members present:

Present: Mayor Charles Burkett, Vice Mayor Tina Paul, Commissioner Nelly Velasquez, Commissioner Eliana Salzhauer and Commissioner Charles Kesl.

Also present were Interim Town Manager Jason Greene and Town Attorney Lillian Arango.

2. Minutes Deferred from the September 10, 2020 Regular Town Commission Meeting – Sandra N. McCready, MMC, Town Clerk

- August 11, 2020 Regular Town Commission Meeting Minutes
- August 18, 2020 Special Town Commission Meeting Minutes
- August 25, 2020 Special Town Commission Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Commissioner Kesl to defer the above minutes, seconded by Commissioner Velasquez. All voted in favor.

A motion was made by Commissioner Salzhauer to interview all six candidates, three interviews one day and three interviews another day and special meeting on another date, seconded by Commissioner Kesl.

Commissioner Kesl withdrew his second. The motion died for lack of a second.

Commissioner Velasquez commented that one of the candidates was arrested for abusing one of the commissioners and believes that needs to be in consideration and is serious.

Commissioner Salzhauer stated she just wants to go over the formality of the procedure.

Vice Mayor Paul stated that they had a tie for third place and one candidate dropped out and wants to stay with the top four candidates.

Commissioner Velasquez addressed the comment made by Vice Mayor Paul and if they keep the top three candidates it would remove the candidate that was arrested.

Commissioner Salzhauer commented on the process, that it should include all the candidates, that that specific candidate disclosed it.

Commissioner Kesl stated that he looked at the results and there is a cut off of the three candidates and one candidate just withdrew because he only had the support of two of the five. That is a reason to go with the top candidates.

Vice Mayor Paul stated that she is in favor of not interviewing the top three candidates.

Commissioner Velasquez stated that she in agreement with interviewing the two candidates that have been voted by everyone. She commented again on the candidate that was arrested by assaulting a commissioner and she fears for her life.

Mayor Burkett stated that he agrees with the comments made by Commissioners Kesl and Commissioner Velasquez. He also stated that this topic was not on the agenda.

Commissioner Salzhauer stated that candidate explained his background and they need to give the one on one to those candidates and give them an hour of their day and does not want to eliminate Natasha Hampton because she is the only female candidate.

Commissioner Kesl stated that he made a mistake on his assessments and that there are four candidates as finalists. He would like to ask the motion maker to add the top four finalists because six is too many.

A motion was made by Commissioner Velasquez to choose the top four candidates, seconded by Commissioner Kesl. The motion carried with a 4-1 vote with Commissioner Salzhauer voting in opposition.

Commissioner Salzhauer stated it is not appropriate to eliminate the minority candidate and it will look discriminatory.

Vice Mayor Paul stated that she is not seeing them as a minority candidate but the

candidate that only received two votes and that is why the third candidate dropped out because they only received two votes.

Commissioner Velasquez stated that it is not correct, that if they do not believe they were not qualified that just because of race they should be included. She stated that she voted for those that were best qualified for the position.

3. Agenda Streamline - Mayor, Commission and Staff Communications

Commissioner Velasquez stated that there are different items that need to be reduced to something that they could handle and then they could include more. She has decided to remove her items.

Commissioner Kesl agrees to remove his item.

Commissioner Salzhauer suggested for the Town Attorney give suggestions on which ones should be removed. She stated that all items should have a memo and if it does not have a summary memo then it should not be on the agenda and have it for the October agenda. She also suggested workshops for large items that would take more time and have a workshop for those meetings. She also stated that there should be more formality and time limits also on presentations.

Vice Mayor Paul spoke regarding item E and if they can get to that they can incorporate some of these items. She believes that the round table meetings should be determined by the Commission. She agrees that power point presentations should be circulated 24 hours ahead and the cover memo for the agenda items.

Commissioner Velasquez stated that each Commissioner should be asking the Town Attorney what needs to be done and those questions should be addressed to the Town Attorney and she is willing to answer the questions. She stated that there should be no censoring of the Commission and residents.

Mayor Burkett stated that all Commissioners are allowed to place things on the agenda and they are already prioritized and understands the amount of items and stated that Town Clerk McCready does not have to redo a book each meeting. The Commissioners can keep the items.

Town Clerk McCready stated that does not work with all the Commissioners.

Mayor Burkett stated it has to work with all of them. He stated that some complain about the length of the agenda but do not address the items on the agenda. Do not reinvent the wheel.

Commissioner Kesl stated that he volunteered to remove his item. He agrees with having the memo and pare down the length

A motion was made by Commissioner Salzhauer that every item that stays on the agenda must be accompanied by a memo with a summary of the issue and how it is to be discussed or changed, all presentation items must be circulated to everyone 48 hours before the meeting, seconded by Vice Mayor Paul. The motion carried with a 4-1 vote with Commissioner Velasquez voting in opposition.

Commissioner Velasquez stated that each Commissioner should decide what they want to keep and commented on the fact that the one thing Commissioner Kesl has on the agenda, he had to withdraw his item and does not find that to be fair. She stated that there are some items that should be removed because they have been addressed already and those that are not priority and can be discussed in a different matter or the Town Manager could make it happen.

Commissioner Kesl thanked Commissioner Velasquez for her comments. He will remove it and come back to it at a later time. He removed item N on the agenda.

Vice Mayor Paul encouraged Commissioner Kesl not to remove his item but to add the cover memo and her items have cover memos and encourages everyone to do cover memos in order to have everyone know what the items entail.

Mayor Burkett went through his items.

Vice Mayor Paul asked if Mayor Burkett could link the Eden and the demolition by neglect.

Interim Town Manager Greene spoke regarding the presentations being provided 48 hours prior and stated if budget related presentations by staff can have an exception.

Commissioner Velasquez commented on the censoring of the Commission and the residents and stated that she does not have a staff that would be putting a presentation together. She stated that they ran on transparency.

Commissioner Salzhauer agrees with Commissioner Velasquez with how the meetings have become the Jerry Springer Show. She commented on the items she has on the agenda and she is certain that some of them will come off when she has to do a cover memo for. She commented on having the presentations 48 hours before.

Commissioner Kesl commented on the knowledge of the public they serve and by tightening the agenda and having the presentations in advance, it will help the public in understanding the items.

Vice Mayor Paul stated that the cover memos are important.

Commissioner Velasquez asked who will be preparing the cover memos for the

Commissioners.

Mayor Burkett asked who will be preparing the cover memos.

Commissioner Salzhauer stated that if the individual putting the item on the agenda is not able to come up with a short memo then they should remove the item.

Vice Mayor Paul stated that the Commissioner writes the memo and it is their responsibility to write it and send to the Town Attorney for legal sufficiency.

Commissioner Velasquez stated that they should designate a Town employee to write the memos for them.

Mayor Burkett explained to Commissioner Velasquez the cover memo and what it should entail.

Town Clerk McCready stated on the record that she circulated the deadline for agenda items due to the Clerk's Office as well as a sample of the cover memo.

A. COVID-19 Task Force Update – Jason Greene, Interim Town Manager

Deferred to next meeting.

B. Discussion and Action Regarding Newly Implemented "Town Blog", Surfside Gazette and Social Media Guidelines – Commissioner Eliana Salzhauer

Deferred to next meeting.

C. Permanent Digital Sign – Commissioner Nelly Velasquez

Deferred to next meeting.

D. Resident Survey regarding Kayak Launch – Vice Mayor Paul / Commissioner Salzhauer

Deferred to next meeting.

E. Amending Town Code Section 2-205 Conduct of Meetings; Agenda – Mayor Charles W. Burkett

Deferred to next meeting.

F. Topper Selection for 4 x 4 Posts on Hardpack and Walking Path - Jason Greene, Interim Town Manager

Deferred to next meeting.

G. Building Department Document Scanning- Jason Greene, Interim Town Manager

Deferred to next meeting.

H. Preservation of Eden Project located at 9300 Collins Avenue - Mayor Charles W. Burkett

Mayor Burkett stated that is important and will not take it off.

I. Speeding on Collins and Harding - Mayor Charles W. Burkett

Mayor Burkett requested to remove this item.

J. Homeless Contribution by the Town of Surfside of \$100,000 - Mayor Charles W. Burkett

Mayor Burkett requested for the Commission to request \$50,000 back from the Homeless.

K. Free (hassle-free) downtown parking for residents - Mayor Charles W. Burkett

Mayor Burkett kept the item.

L. Records Retention Policy – Mayor Charles W. Burkett

Deferred to next meeting.

M. Regulation of Short-Term Rentals – Mayor Charles W. Burkett

Deferred to next meeting.

N. S.M.A.R.T Goals, Quality Control & Quality Assurance – Commissioner Charles Kesl

Deferred to next meeting.

O. Design Review Board Discussion – Staff Report – Jason Greene, Interim Town Manager

Deferred to next meeting.

P. Weiss Serota Contract Follow up – Staff Report – Jason Greene, Interim Town Manager

Deferred to next meeting.

Q. Town Pension Benefits for Non-Public Safety Employees – Mayor Charles W. Burkett

Deferred to next meeting.

R. Additional lighting in the residential area – Staff Report – Jason Greene, Interim Town Manager

Deferred to next meeting.

S. Lowering of Property Taxes and Water Bills – Staff Report – Jason Greene, Interim Town Manager

Deferred to next meeting.

T. CGA Contract Follow Up – Staff Report – Jason Greene, Interim Town Manager

Deferred to next meeting.

U. FPL Solar Together - Vice Mayor Tina Paul

Deferred to next meeting.

V. Climate Environmental Collective Revised - Vice Mayor Tina Paul

Deferred to next meeting.

W. Interest Free Loans to Surfside Builders Granted by Former Mayor and Commission – Mayor Charles W. Burkett

Deferred to next meeting.

X. How our Zoning Protections Against Over-Development Were Gutted - Mayor Charles W. Burkett

Mayor Burkett requested to remove the item.

Y. Amending Town Code Section 2-233 to Include Non-for-Profit – Mayor Charles W. Burkett

Mayor Burkett requested to remove the item.

Z. Amending Town Code Section 2-237 Business Relationships – Commissioner Eliana Salzhauer

Deferred to next meeting.

AA. Speeding & Stop Sign Running - Commissioner Eliana Salzhauer

Deferred to next meeting.

BB. Beachwalk Trimming- Staff Report – Jason Greene, Interim Town Manager

Deferred to next meeting.

CC. Pool Deck Lighting for Extended Winter Hours- Staff Report – Jason Greene, Interim Town Manager

Deferred to next meeting.

DD. Community Center Second Floor – Staff Report - Jason Greene, Interim Town Manager

Deferred to next meeting.

EE. Designated (Painted) Walking Areas in the Residential District- Staff Report – Jason Greene, Interim Town Manager

Deferred to next meeting.

FF. Procurement Expertise – Commissioner Eliana Salzhauer

Deferred to next meeting.

GG. Take Home Vehicles - Commissioner Eliana Salzhauer

Deferred to next meeting.

HH. Recent and Significant Increase in Boat, Paddleboard and Kayak Use on Point Lake – Mayor Charles W. Burkett

Deferred to next meeting.

II. Comparison of 2006 Code to 2020 Code – Staff Report – Jason Greene, Interim Town Manager

Deferred to next meeting.

JJ. Stormwater Masterplan - Staff Report – Jason Greene, Interim Town Manager

Deferred to next meeting.

KK. Securing Power Infrastructure: Timely Action Plan for Hurricane Season through accountability now by FPL, ATT and Atlantic Broadband – Staff Report – Jason Greene, Interim Town Manager

Deferred to next meeting.

LL. Amendment to the Tourist Board Ordinance – Commissioner Nelly Velasquez

Deferred to next meeting.

MM. Demolition by Neglect - Mayor Charles W. Burkett

Mayor Burkett requested to remove the item.

NN. Draft Ordinance Amending Definitions of Lot Coverage - Commissioner Eliana Salzhauer

Deferred to next meeting.

OO. Legally Defective Charter Amendment Vote in 2012 – Mayor Charles W. Burkett

Mayor Burkett requested to keep the item on the agenda.

PP. Purchase of Waterfront Property for Park Land (Pink House) – Commissioner Nelly Velasquez

Deferred to next meeting.

QQ. Traffic Control Devices on 88th Street and Hawthorne Avenue – Commissioner Eliana Salzhauer

Deferred to next meeting.

RR. Cone of Silence/Secrecy – Mayor Charles Burkett

Mayor Burkett requested to keep the item on the agenda.

SS. Gazette Revenue and Funding Sources – Mayor Charles Burkett

Deferred to next meeting.

TT. Beach Raking – Commissioner Eliana Salzhauer

Deferred to next meeting.

UU. Taking Steps to Keep our Businesses Alive During COVID – Mayor Charles Burkett

Deferred to next meeting.

4. Good and Welfare/ Public Comments from Residents


Public comments for subjects or items not on the agenda. Public comment on agenda items will be allowed when agenda item is discussed by the Commission.

No public speakers.

5. Adjournment

A motion was made by Commissioner Kesl to adjourn the meeting without objection at 7:11 p.m. The motion received a second from Vice Mayor Paul. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

Accepted this 13th day of October, 2020.



Charles W. Burkett, Mayor

Attest:



Sandra N. McCreedy, MMC
Town Clerk