

TOWN OF FLORIDA BOARD MEETING

June 17, 2024

7:00pm

The regular monthly meeting of the Town of Florida Town Board; was called to order at 7:00 pm by Deputy Supervisor Harold Alikonis. Also present for the meeting were Councilman Matthew Gogis, Councilman Steve Rackowski, Councilman Mark Quiri, Attorney Mike Crowe and Town Clerk Emily Staley. Supervisor Eric Mead was absent.

Councilman Mark Quiri led the salute to the flag.

Motion by Councilman Mark Quiri and seconded by Councilman Steve Rackowski to accept the Agenda; all in favor and passed.

Motion by Councilman Matthew Gogis and seconded by Councilman Mark Quiri to approve and accept the minutes from the May 20, 2024 Board Meeting; all in favor and passed.

Committee Reports:

Communications & Announcements:

- Nothing at this time.

Assessor:

- Nothing at this time.

Engineering:

Nothing at this time.

Attorney:

- Attorney Mike Crowe informed the Town Board that he has received the Host Community Agreement from New Leaf Energy. This is just a standard general draft. Changes will need to be made. Having this sent does not mean their project is approved, this is just part of the process.

Planning and Zoning:

- Cliff/Tim Oathout and Carmen Sinicropi were present. Carmen has issued several basic building permits. He stopped over to Mohawk Hills subdivision to see about the lots that have leftover construction debris on them and those lots were being cleaned up. Cliff received a complaint call regarding the Kimber's wedding venue on McDougall Road. He advised the resident to call the Sheriff's Department and have them take a ride out. He will stop by to see Mr. Kimber and talk with him.

Building Maintenance:

- Nothing at this time.

Highway:

- Nothing at this time.

Water and Sewer:

- Deputy Supervisor Harold Alikonis announced that the Town did not make the deadline for the WIIA grant submission. He would like to consider a poll of the residents of Fort Hunter to see if moving forward with such a project would even be wanted by the residents. Clerk Emily Staley suggested going door to door with information and getting an informal poll.

Youth:

- Bus trip to NYC to the Bronx Zoo and/or the Botanical Gardens is set for July 20th. The Youth Commission is reserving two buses.

Veterans:

- Father's Day Breakfast was a success. Good food and good turnout.

Old Business:

Councilman Matthew Gogis was looking for updates on the tennis/pickleball courts at Ron Mead Park and Councilman/Deputy Supervisor Harold Alikonis stated that the Board members needed to see the one that was available to look at. AED devices Supervisor Eric Mead was going to look into pricing from the County Emergency Management for them. Text MyGov for the Town alerts has gone live as of today. If anyone did not get a text then they can sign up by texting Hi to 518-684-7778.

Mowing ahead signs should be placed on the roads that the Town Highway workers are mowing on to keep them safe. Councilman Matthew Gogis also stated that the Sheriff could not enforce the Kimber's conditions because it isn't a Local Law and that Cliff would have to speak with them and then cite them if the issues persist.

New Business:

1. **RESOLUTION #60** a Resolution sponsored by Councilman Matthew Gogis and seconded by Councilman Mark Quiri to authorize the Highway Superintendent, Steve Anderson, to spend CHIPS money in the amount of five hundred twenty-four thousand four hundred ninety-three dollars (\$524,493) for primary work and general repairs upon 39.49 miles of Town Highways; including sluices, culverts and bridges having a span of less than five feet and boardwalks or the renewals thereof; all in favor and passed.
2. **RESOLUTION #61** a Resolution sponsored by Deputy Supervisor Harold Alikonis and seconded by Councilman Matthew Gogis authorizing the Town of Florida Supervisor to sign the amended Master Service Agreement with Barton and Loguidice for engineering services for the Town of Florida for the remainder of the year 2024; all in favor and passed.
3. **RESOLUTION #62** a Resolution sponsored by Councilman Steve Rackowski and seconded by Councilman Mark Quiri to purchase equipment from the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office in the amount of two thousand dollars (\$2,000) for a vehicle for the Code and Zoning Enforcement Officers to use in the course of their duties; all in favor and passed.

Public Comment: Opened at 7:24pm

Becca Counterline, 511 McDougall Road, complaint about the Kimber wedding venue across the road from her house. Guests pass the entrance and then turn around in her driveway and are also speeding down the cemetery road and turning around there. Events are supposed to end by 10pm and at 11pm there are still people there. No lights in the parking lot and no attendants for the parking. Have already had two events for June and they are only supposed to have 3 per month. They are using their house as an AirBNB. Deputy Supervisor Harold Alikonis suggested that the Zoning Officer stop in to speak with Mr. Kimber and go over the conditions of their permit.

John McGlone, 106 Brown Place, Thanked the Board for listening to his concerns at the last meeting. Thinks a straw poll of the residents of Fort Hunter is a good idea. The creation of a new water district would be up for public referendum if it got that far. There could be a public hearing scheduled for the residents so they could be brought up to date on the project and the estimated costs involved and possible costs to residents. Does not think the Barton & Loguidice study and report is complete and well done. He did ask some of his neighbors and many are struggling to make ends meet now. 18% of residential properties have gone through foreclosure in the last 10 years.

Debbie Oathout, 243 Lost Valley Road, looking for an update on the request for any grants regarding extending broadband to sections of the Town not done in the last round? In April money was approved for municipalities to apply for and the last of the deadlines is approaching in July. Clerk Emily Staley will reach out to Ken Rose's office and see if they have any information regarding this.

Public Comment: Closed at 7:36pm

MOTION by Councilman Steve Rackowski to audit and pay the monthly bills was seconded by Councilman Mark Quiri; all present in favor and passed.

MOTION by Deputy Supervisor Harold Alikonis and seconded by Councilman Matthew Gogis to accept the Supervisor's Report; all present in favor and passed.

MOTION by Councilman Matthew Gogis to adjourn was seconded by Councilman Mark Quiri; all in favor and passed. The meeting was adjourned at 7:55pm.

Respectfully Submitted
Emily Staley - Town Clerk