



**Town of Surfside
Regular Town Commission Meeting
MINUTES
August 9, 2022
7:00 PM**

Commission Chambers - 9293 Harding Avenue
Surfside, FL 33154

1. Opening

1A. Call to Order

Mayor Danzinger called the meeting to order at 7:20 p.m.

1B. Roll Call of Members

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

Present: Mayor Shlomo Danzinger, Vice Mayor Jeff Rose, Commissioner Nelly Velasquez, Commissioner Marianne Meisheid and Commissioner Fred Landsman.

Also present were Town Manager Andrew Hyatt, Assistant Town Manager Jason Greene, Town Attorney Lillian Arango and Town Attorney Tony Recio.

1C. Pledge of Allegiance

Chief Torres provided the pledge of allegiance.

1D. Mayor and Commission Remarks - Mayor Shlomo Danzinger

Mayor Danzinger spoke regarding decorum and stated that the same rules apply for the public and the Commission.

Commissioner Landsman is interested in hearing what everyone has to say.

Commissioner Meisheid spoke regarding the event that took place at the street naming ceremony.

Commissioner Velasquez stated that she is hoping to have a good meeting and they are there to do what is right for the community and all the residents and she is definitely listening.

1E. Agenda and Order of Business Additions, deletions and linkages

Town Clerk McCready requested a motion to add the items from the special commission meeting to this meeting under item 9.

A motion was made by Commissioner Meisheid to add the discussion items from the previous August 9, 2022 Special Town Commission Meeting to this agenda as item 9A (Obtaining a Public Relations Firm for Surfside to Combat Negative Media), item 9B (Future Format of Town Gazette) and item 9C (Seaweed Cleanup on the Beach), seconded by Commissioner Landsman. The motion carried with a 4-1 vote with Commissioner Velasquez voting in opposition.

1F. Community Notes - Mayor Shlomo Danzinger

Mayor Danzinger stated that they have a Surfside hero and American hero and thanked him for his service to the Community. He gave a synopsis of the actions taken in protecting the turtles and their nest. He presented him with the Surfside Citizen of the Year Certificate, with a Town challenge coin and a turtle.

1G. Presentation of the Police Department Civilian of the Year 2021 - Andrew Hyatt, Town Manager

Chief Torres presented the Police Department Civilian of the Year 2021 award to Dina Goldstein.

1G. CTS Update - Town Manager, Andrew Hyatt

Allyn Kilsheimer provided an update on the CTS investigation. He thanked Town Attorneys Arango, Town Attorney Recio and Assistant Town Attorney Greene for their help and what they are doing is for the people of Surfside and everyone that lives up and down the coast. He thanked them for approving the additional funds.

Commissioner Velasquez asked if he has a ballpark of when they would get answers and the whole point of hiring a private engineer was to get the process to get this done quicker and not wait on NIST.

Mr. Kilsheimer stated that they eliminated a lot of things and they are down to the point of understanding certain things on the ground at the site. He stated that approximately 300 pieces were not tested and they were not available to them but Town Attorney Recio is helping them to get access to those pieces. He stated that if he can get the things done in the next two weeks and Town Attorney Recio is successful in getting certain things, and if he would have it all today, he could have it done in 6 months, but he does not have everything today. His hope is that by the next meeting he will be successful with what George Kousoulas and Town Attorney Recio are doing.

2. Quasi-Judicial Hearings

Town Clerk McCready read the title of the resolution into the record.

Mayor Danzinger read the quasi-judicial statement into the record.

Town Attorney Recio asked Town Clerk McCready to confirm noticing requirement.

Town Clerk McCready confirmed notice requirement.

Town Attorney Recio polled the Commission for any ex-parte communication with the applicant or anyone from the public.

Vice Mayor Rose spoke with the applicant to see why there was a need for the variance and information regarding the project.

Commissioner Meischeid spoke to someone regarding the project.

Mayor Danzinger stated that he did not speak to anyone but did attend the Planning and Zoning Board meeting where this item was discussed.

2A. 8705 Carlyle Avenue Variance - Andrew Hyatt, Town Manager

Recommend approval of the Variance requests for 8705 Carlyle Drive.

Town Planner Keller provided a summary of the item.

George Kousoulas, representing applicant provided a summary of the project and went through the PowerPoint presentation.

Commissioner Landsman asked regarding the side setbacks and wanted clarification. He confirmed that the pool is elevated.

Mr. Kousoulas addressed the comments and questions from Commissioner Landsman. He stated that the pool is elevated and the seawall as well and conforms with the first floor.

Commissioner Landsman asked if the Building Official is in agreement with the seawall.

Building Official McGuinness stated that he is in agreement.

Vice Mayor Rose reiterated that this item passed with a 5-0 vote at the Planning and Zoning Board meeting and asked for clarification from Town Attorney Recio as to this variance.

Town Attorney Recio stated that this is a text book variance since without a variance, nothing could be built on this lot.

Town Clerk McCready swore in the public that would be speaking.

The following individuals from the public spoke:

Jeffrey Platt stated that if Vice Mayor Rose will not build directly or indirectly on this property and that Commissioner Meischeid not vote on this item since Mr. Kousoulas is on this project. He stated that the owner knew this was an unbuildable lot and should not have purchased the lot. He stated that it is still a 3 story house and it is a deliberate attempt from the applicant to profit.

Eliana Salzhauer agrees with Mr. Platt as to why someone would purchase a property that is unbuildable. She spoke against the project.

Mayor Danzinger reminded the public of proper decorum and not clapping.

Mr. Kousoulas rebutted the comments made by the public. He stated this house is an understory and the variance has nothing to do with the understory. He stated that there are hardship definitions under the zoning code. He addressed the other comment made regarding Vice Mayor Rose and other Commissioners which are incorrect comments.

Commissioner Velasquez asked if this house has a rooftop deck and what is the setback on that.

Mr. Kousoulas addressed the comments made by Commissioner Velasquez and stated it does. He stated the setbacks are on the east 10 feet, west 10 feet, north there is a stair that comes up and on the waterfront is 2 feet. He stated that this house is on a weird lot and spoke regarding the waterfront side of the lot.

Commissioner Velasquez stated that the setback is to be 10 feet and it does not have that setback.

Mr. Kousoulas read the paragraph in the zoning code as it pertains to the roof top deck setback.

Mayor Danzinger put the item on hold to hear Good and Welfare.

Commissioner Meischeid restated that Town Planner Keller stated that this meets the criteria for approval of the variance.

Town Planner Keller stated this variance does meet this criteria. He stated there was an existing house on the lot and it is zoned H30A and stated this lot is an H30B size and this does qualify.

Commissioner Meischeid asked if he can reiterate that variances are difficult to get and must meet strict criteria.

Town Planner Keller stated yes.

Commissioner Meischeid asked Town Attorney Recio if he concurs with the Planning and Zoning Board that the entire Board agreed that it met the criteria.

Town Attorney Recio stated that what is before them is their recommendation for approval.

Commissioner Landsman asked if the roof top deck fits Code.

Town Planner Keller stated that the roof top deck does not meet code the way it is currently. He stated that it needs a 10 foot setback on the side and the applicant must come back for that separate variance.

Commissioner Landsman asked if it can be added as a condition.

Town Attorney Recio stated you can add it as a condition to this variance that it would be altered to meet code.

Commissioner Landsman stated that his assumption is that a family wants to build a home to live in the home and that needs to be taken into consideration.

Vice Mayor Rose stated that they are going through the zoning code to fix it and if they want a roof deck do they have to come back once they change the zoning code for another variance.

Town Attorney Recio stated the roof deck is allowed but requires setback requirements, which is set back 10 feet. He stated they do not need a variance if they revise it meet code.

Commissioner Velasquez stated that either they put it back 10 feet or come back for another variance.

Town Attorney Recio stated if they want to pull it back they do not have to come back.

Commissioner Velasquez asked regarding the second floor and where it is pushed in. She stated that the area is not pushed in and that there is an existing home and it could be improved and there would be no hardship. She asked regarding the 80%.

Mr. Kousoulas addressed the comments made by Commissioner Velasquez and stated it is on A101. He stated that the first floor is 33% of the lot but it is allowed to be 40% and is undersized and that creates a second story very similar to the first story. He addressed the comment regarding the existing house which is considered a nonconforming structure so you could not do anything to the house.

Commissioner Velasquez asked for clarification on the site plans and that it does not give you a right not to do the 80% on first floor.

Vice Mayor Rose clarified what the code states as it pertains to the 80% rule.

Commissioner Velasquez asked for the Town Planner to respond regarding what percentage is allowed on the first and second floor.

Town Attorney Recio addressed the comments and read section 90.45 Setbacks as it pertains to the zoning code and the ZIP. He stated the zoning code rewrite is made to clarify it.

Town Attorney Recio stated that the language in the code is up for interpretation and without the zip you are left with what is stated in the language which is still vague.

Mayor Danzinger reiterated what the Town Attorney stated.

Mr. Kousoulas stated that the house is still smaller.

After a lengthy discussion among the Commission and Town staff regarding the legality of the variance and what it states in the zoning code, the following vote on motion was called.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Rose to approve the variance, seconded by Commissioner Meischheid. The motion carried with a 4-1 vote with Commissioner Velasquez voting in opposition.

[Variance Request for 8705 Carlyle.pdf](#)

[5B_8705 Carlyle Ave _2 Sty SF wUndrsty & Variance-R.pdf](#)

[Variance_Resolution_-_8705_Carlyle_Avenue_TA_v2.docx](#)

3. Consent Agenda

All items on the consent agenda are considered routine or status reports by the Town Commission and will be approved by one motion. Any Commission member may request that an item be removed from the Consent Agenda and discussed separately. If the public wishes to speak on a matter on the consent agenda they must inform the Town Clerk prior to the start of the meeting by completing a speaker card. They will be recognized to speak prior to the approval of the consent agenda.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Rose to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Commissioner Landsman. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

3A. Commission Meeting Minutes - Sandra McCreedy, MMC, Town Clerk

Approved on consent.

[07-12-2022 Special Town Commission Meeting Minutes.pdf](#)

[07-12-2022 Town Commission Meeting Minutes.pdf](#)

3B. Committee and Boards Minutes - Sandra McCreedy, MMC, Town Clerk

Approved on consent.

[05-02-2022 Tourist Board Meeting Minutes.pdf](#)

[05-16-2022 Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes.pdf](#)

3C. Approving a Project Agreement with Nova Consulting, Inc. to Provide Professional Design Services for the Collins Avenue Water Main Replacement Design Project. Authorizing the Expenditure of Funds in the Fiscal Year 2023 Budget - Andrew Hyatt, Town Manager

Town administration is seeking authorization to expend funding in Fiscal Year 2023, contingent upon budget approval for Nova Consulting to provide design and permitting services for the proposed partially grant funded Collins Avenue Water Main Design Phase project

Approved on consent.

[Reso Approving a Project Agreement Nova Consulting for Design Services Collins Avenue Water Main Replacement Design Project.docx](#)

[CSA Project Agreement Nova Consulting Collins Water Main Design.DOCX](#)

[Nova Consulting Scope of Services Proposal Dated June 22 2022](#)

3D. FY 2022 Budget Amendment Resolution No. 8 - Andrew Hyatt, Town Manager

Town Administration recommends approval of the budget amendment.

Approved on consent.

[Resolution Approving Budget Amendment No. 8 for FY 2022.DOCX](#)

[FY2022 Budget Amendment No. 8.pdf](#)

3E. Disaster Cost Recovery Services Contract - Andrew Hyatt, Town Manager

Town Administration recommends approval to execute a Disaster Cost Recovery Services contract with Hagerty Consulting via a "piggy-back" contract via Miami-Dade County.

Approved on consent.

[Resolution Hagerty Agreement - Disaster Cost Recovery Services.docx](#)

[Exhibit A - Agreement with Hagerty - Disaster Cost Recovery Services.pdf](#)

3F. Employee Health Benefits Contract Renewal for FY 2023 - Andrew Hyatt, Town Manager

Town Administration recommends that the Town Commission adopt the attached resolution approving the group health, dental and vision with Cigna, term life and AD&D insurance, short-term disability and long-term disability with Mutual of Omaha, and the flexible spending, HRA administration, and COBRA with Ameriflex.

Approved on consent.

[Resolution Approving Employee Health Benefit Contracts and Other Insurance Benefits FY 22 23.DOC](#)

[Attachment A - renewal-town of surfside.pdf](#)

3G. School Resource Officer for School Year 2022/2023 - Andrew Hyatt, Town Manager

Town Administration recommends approval of the attached resolution which amends Resolution 2022-2896 adopted on July 12, 2022, and authorizing the execution of the revised Memorandum of Understanding funding and supplementing the School Board's SRO with a second SRO for school year 2022/2023 in the amount of

\$21,007.33.

Approved on consent.

[Reso Approving MOU for School Resource Officer TAv2.DOCX](#)

[2022 School Resource Officer SRO MOU Bay Harbor Bal Harbour Surfside -7-29-22.docx](#)

4. Ordinances

Second Reading

4A1. Amendments to the Town Code to Allow Operation of Landscaping Equipment and Other Noise-Producing Mechanical Devices (such as Leaf Blowers) During Permitted Hours - Mayor Shlomo Danzinger

Town Clerk McCready read the title of the ordinance into the record.

Mayor Danzinger opened public comment.

The following individuals from the public spoke:

Eliana Salzhauer spoke against gas leaf blowers.

Gerardo Vildostegui agrees on the sunset portion but the gas leaf blowers are very bad.

Marcio Luchese spoke against the item.

George Kousoulas agrees with Mr. Vildostegui and stated the Commission is looking at sunset this and the question is how soon.

Ben Jacobson stated that nobody likes noise and clean energy but then they kill trees for straws because they do not like plastic. The idea is to phase this out and the sunset operation is good because it gives people time.

Mayor Danzinger closed public comment.

Mayor Danzinger introduced the item and explained why it is being brought forward. He stated that leaf blowers are needed to reach certain areas. He stated that they are trying to give them an option and this is a required tool for landscaping. This will give homeowners an opportunity to phase out and purchase the electric or battery operated one.

A motion was made by Commissioner Velasquez to move forward the leaf blower but not gas operated one, seconded by Commissioner Meischeid.

Commissioner Velasquez agrees that the leaf blower is important and she has a battery one. She feels that the gas ones pollute the environment.

Commissioner Landsman stated that the prior commission passed it and stated that he does hear gas leaf blowers. He stated that it is against code and believes that they are still being utilized and the ordinance that passed several years ago is not being enforced. He stated that all landscaping equipment makes noise and they are gas powered as well. He agrees with the sunset idea and still believes it will be

difficult.

Commissioner Meischeid is in favor of electric or battery operated leaf blowers.

Vice Mayor Rose stated that his biggest issue is that they are not enforcing it. He stated that the other landscape equipment is still gas powered. He spoke regarding the grace period.

Commissioner Velasquez stated why they need to wait and they must be environmentally friendly. She asked for the commission to consider their neighbors.

Mayor Danzinger responded to the comments made by Commissioner Velasquez.

The motion died with a 2-3 vote with Mayor Danzinger, Vice Mayor Rose and Commissioner Landsman voting in opposition.

Vice Mayor Rose asked for clarification on the time frame for sun setting.

Commissioner Landsman stated the importance of being able to enforcing the ordinance.

Mayor Danzinger passed the gavel.

A motion was made by Mayor Danzinger to approve the ordinance on second reading as written with the sunset of 18 months, seconded by Commissioner Landsman. The motion carried with a 3-2 vote with Commissioner Velasquez and Commissioner Meischeid voting in opposition.

[Ordinance Amending Sections 54-78\(15\) and 66-7 - Use of Landscape Equipment 2nd Reading](#)

First Reading

4B1 Beach Furniture Ordinance - Vice Mayor Jeff Rose

Approval of the ordinance on first reading

Town Clerk McCready read the title of the ordinance into the record.

Vice Mayor Rose briefly introduced the item and stated that there has been a lot of misinformation out there and asked for the public to listen to the details on the matter and read what was actually written not what has been written online.

A motion was made by Commissioner Meischeid for purposes of discussion, seconded by Vice Mayor Rose.

Mayor Danzinger opened public comment:

The following individuals from the public spoke:

Madelyn Noble spoke against the item.

Max Nieto spoke against the item.

Joanne Nieto spoke against the item.
Liv Benitah spoke against the item.
Eliana Salzhauer spoke against the item.
Julio Rumbaut spoke against the item.
Rue Nunez thanked the Commission and spoke in favor of the item.
Gerardo Vildostegui spoke against the item.
Juan Valdez spoke against the item.
Aurora De La Rosa spoke in favor the item.
Clara Diaz Leal spoke against the the full box and stated they need to monitor it.
Retta Logan spoke against the preset of the chairs and does not agree with any speed vehicle on the beach.
Joel Thieme spoke against the item and would like the Commission to address the issue of the lawsuit with the Grand Beach Hotel.
Jeffrey Platt spoke against the item.
Marcio Luchese spoke against the item.
Ranee Kessler spoke against the curfew portion of the ordinance
Maria Pinzon spoke against the item and regarding the petition collected.
George Kousoulas spoke regarding the item and offered options.
Ben Jacobson spoke regarding the pending litigation and what the condominiums are requesting.

Mayor Danzinger called for a recess at 10:25 p.m.

Mayor Danzinger resumed the meeting at 10:45 p.m.

Town Clerk McCready called the roll with the following members present: Mayor Danzinger, Vice Mayor Rose, Commissioner Velasquez, Commissioner Meisheid and Commissioner Landsman.

A motion was made by Commissioner Meisheid to approve the ordinance on second reading with the following revisions: staging station limited to 1 8 x 8 foot box up to 200 feet; 1 12 x 12 box up to 200 feet; operation to be from 8 a.m. to sunset and prohibit people West of Collins Avenue to enter into negotiations with beach furniture operators, seconded by Vice Mayor Rose adding on line 161 should say beach chairs and umbrellas.

Commissioner Meisheid introduced the item.

Commissioner Landsman stated to look at something incremental and is not in support unless they can make a change to the preset. He is in favor to go in the middle for more availability with the preset. He spoke regarding comments made regarding the litigation and whatever they do with the ordinance will affect all the properties in the beachfront.

Commissioner Velasquez asked why on line 87 opens up people coming in from other areas to rent beach chairs. The beach chairs should be exclusively for guests of the hotels and residents and guests from the condominiums. She does not understand why they are taking the 15 feet away from the dunes in line 94. She spoke regarding having a larger footprint on the beach. She believes there should be a limit and should not be open. She suggested presetting 10 per 100 linear feet per

property. She stated that it should not be unlimited. She is fine with 8 am to sunset. She has a problem with food on the beach.

Vice Mayor Rose clarified the misinformation and asked who owns the beach and who owns the hard pack and explain the difference between the hard pack and jogging path.

Town Attorney Recio stated that the State owns the beach and the hard pack is private property. He explained how far the private property extends and they are restricted to certain easements and it is still private property.

Vice Mayor Rose asked if there was any ordinance prohibiting motorized vehicle on private property on the hard pack.

Town Attorney Recio stated that it does not specify that restriction to the hard pack.

Vice Mayor Rose asked if this ordinance was created and commercialized by this Commission. He asked regarding the staging area, height limitation, usage study was done.

Town Attorney Recio stated that they are amending an existing ordinance. No usage study was done.

Vice Mayor Rose thanked everyone for coming and stated that they are not doing overnight storage and storage. He appreciates what the hotels do but he is not doing this for the hotels but for condominium residents and other residents. He asked if there is no ordinance what would happen with the beach chair operators.

Town Attorney Recio stated there would be no regulation on beach chairs.

Vice Mayor Rose stated he is comfortable with food and beverage because if a condominium owner can bring their own food and drinks and that is not regulated, then why can they not offer the same thing to others.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Rose to extend the meeting for one hour at 11:06 p.m., seconded by Commissioner Meischeid. The motion carried with a 4-1 vote with Commissioner Velasquez in opposition.

Vice Mayor Rose asked if Bal Harbor allows food and beverage to the beach.

Town Attorney Arango stated that they can.

Vice Mayor Rose stated that he would like to see what the other cities have and consider it on second reading.

Mayor Danzinger addressed a few concerns regarding complaints on messes on the beach and there are strict regulations in place. He provided a picture to show the commission and public and stated that picture is from the Grand Beach. He stated that they will not be presetting 90 chairs. They will only preset the amount they believe they will be using. He commented that the legislation passed before was

incorrect because they do not have authority to regulate private property. He stated that he is happy with removing the west side of Collins. He asked for modification to the ordinance and stated that if there is a mess they will lose the ability to put out the chairs.

Code Compliance Manager Sanchez-Alborna stated that the license is issued to the hotel not to the vendor.

Mayor Danzinger asked if the vendor has to come with insurance requirements.

Code Compliance Manager Sanchez-Alborna stated that the insurance is from the condominium and they do know who the vendors are and they at times require their proof of insurance.

Mayor Danzinger stated his concern with the vendors and holding them accountable.

Commissioner Meischeid spoke regarding them being fined and who is responsible.

Mayor Danzinger asked to add the companion fine to the vendor in addition to the condominium or hotel.

Commissioner Meischeid agreed to that addition.

Mayor Danzinger spoke regarding the licensing requirements and the three years does not lock them in but allows them to look for better pricing.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Rose for a 3 minute recess at 11:21 p.m., seconded by Commissioner Meischeid. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

Mayor Danzinger resumed the meeting at 11:25 p.m.

Town Clerk McCready called the roll and the following members were present: Commissioner Velasquez absent from the dais.

Commissioner Meischeid is still comfortable with one year.

The motion carried with a 3-2 vote with Commissioner Velasquez and Commissioner Landsman in opposition.

[Beach_Furniture_Ordinance_1st_reading_August_9__2022.docx](#)

[Beach_Chair_Operation_Allocation_Area_Diagram_-_revised_following_2nd_reading_-_Exhibit_A.pdf](#)

[Maximum_Beach_Furniture_Allocation_Chart_-_Revised_2nd_Reading_9-11-2020_-_Exhibit_B.pdf](#)

5. Resolutions and Proclamations

If the public wishes to speak on a matter on this section of the agenda, they must inform the Town Clerk by completing a speaker card and they will be recognized to

Speak prior to the approval of any resolution..

6. Good and Welfare

The following individuals from the public spoke:

Bob Fisher spoke regarding infrastructure and the flag poles and the flags that should fly on those poles.

Jeffrey Platt spoke regarding the Public Works Department redoing the 92nd Street and the rocks being removed. He spoke regarding the project on the dunes.

Eliana Salzhauer spoke regarding being against the 5:30 p.m. meeting and regarding the one way street and painting a bike lane on the street which means 50% of residents will not be able to park in front of their homes. She encouraged the Commission not to allow food service on the beach.

Mayor Danzinger reminded Commissioner Velasquez on the rules of decorum and to please stop speaking while the public is speaking.

Gerardo Vildostegui spoke regarding not having 5:30 p.m. and understands it is to avoid the very late meetings. He spoke regarding the idling trucks on Indian Creek and the harm of pollution.

Marcio Luchese spoke regarding corruption and for the residents to think better and most of the residents are against most of the proposals in Town.

Clara Diaz Leal spoke regarding making important decisions that need to be made and provide clarity.

Joanna Katz commended the Commission for passing the pride flag for next year. She also spoke regarding the decorum.

Hanna Danzinger spoke regarding the street lights in Surfside are bad and are dark. She spoke regarding flying a flag for IDF for Israel and to support them. She spoke regarding inclusivity, love and respect and the way everyone talks is disgusting and there is a way of talking to an elected official in a respectful manner.

Mayor Danzinger closed public comment.

Commissioner Velasquez addressed the comment made by Ms. Diaz-Leal and they do want a one way street and disregarding the residents that live on those streets. She suggested roundabouts and trees to slow traffic but putting white lines on the streets is not the way to go. She agrees with more street lights and some regarding the streets being very dark. She agrees that there should be a no smoking policy on the beach.

Commissioner Meischeid addressed the comments made regarding the 5:30 p.m. meetings which was done as a possible solution on not going over midnight. She stated it is more reasonable to do the meetings at 5:30 p.m. and make decisions at that time and not at midnight.

Commissioner Landsman addressed the comments made by the public and how to propose enforcement of no smoking on the beach and he will not be hiring more police and code enforcement to enforce no smoking. He stated that the 5:30 p.m. meeting is a catch 22 and one of the failings of the last commission is that they spent 4 hours on one item and they did not take action. He stated this is not to hide anything and the meetings are recorded. He clarified the one way streets was not decided to do it on all streets and all that was asked was to come with ideas and possibilities.

Vice Mayor Rose agreed with Commissioner Landsman and what they decided was to get a cost to see one way streets on streets not avenues. He addressed the comments made about the 5:30 p.m. meeting and regardless what they decide the same individuals will be against it. He addressed the comment made by Mr. Vildostegui regarding the trucks. He agrees with the no smoking on the beach. He agrees with Ms. Danzinger with the fact that the public made smirks and comments because of who she is and this Commission is here to listen to her and all residents. He stated that he cares about voting residents.

Mayor Danzinger addressed the comments made regarding the 5:30 p.m. meeting and it is difficult to make decisions at 1:00 a.m. and complaints were made that they would sneak items in so late. He stated the concept is to have discussion items and if an ordinance is to come up from the discussion item it is placed on the regular agendas. He stated that he has been printing the decorum statement on the front of the agenda and there are rules in place. He stated there is a concern with the street lights. He addressed the comment made by his daughter and the anti-Semitic statements made by a particular resident during good and welfare, and how disappointed he is with everyone in the room who got up previously to speak about inclusivity, yet no-one said anything about these comments.

7. Town Manager and Town Attorney Reports

7A. August Town Manager's Report - Andrew Hyatt

Town Manager Hyatt provided a summary of his Town Manager's report. He appreciates the staff for being here and for the comments made that were inappropriate. He stated that the 96th Street Park construction bid will be put out again due to not receiving any bids the first time it was out.

[2022-09 August Town Manager's Report.pdf](#)

7B. August Town Attorney's Report - Lillian Arango, Town Attorney

Town Attorney Arango provided a summary of her Town Attorney's report. She brought to their attention the other matters they work on which are on consent and explained which agreements those are and they are very important ones. She went over the pending litigation cases as well and there are no changes or status updates on the cases. She stated that they still have not received an update on the FAA lawsuit.

8. Unfinished Business and New Business

Mayor Danzinger stated that there is a vacancy on the Police Officers Trust and he passed the gavel.

A motion was made by Mayor Danzinger to appoint William Blumenkranz to the Board, seconded by Vice Mayor Rose. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

9. Mayor, Commission and Staff Communications

Mayor Danzinger opened the floor to public comment.

The following members of the public spoke:

Gerardo Vildostegui would like to keep the paper form of the gazette and the comment made about residents undermining the Town and is against the public relations item.

Julio Rumbaut agrees with Mr. Vildostegui and is against the public relations item.

Eliana Salzhauer spoke against the public relations item.

Mayor Danzinger closed public comment.

9C. Seaweed Cleanup on the Beach

Item was deferred from the August 9, 2022 Special Town Commission Meeting.

Vice Mayor Rose introduced the item and stated that the cleanup of the seaweed was cut in the budget. He stated that it cannot be removed from the beach.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Rose to put this item back in the budget, seconded by Commissioner Velasquez.

Commissioner Velasquez agrees to clean up the seaweed.

Mayor Danzinger thanked the Vice Mayor for bringing this forward.

The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

9A. Obtaining a Public Relations Firm for Surfside to Combat Negative Media

Item was deferred from the August 9, 2022 Special Town Commission Meeting.

Mayor Danzinger introduced the item and provided an overview. He explained the request for a crisis manager and gave an example of what took place which was with the Police Department and it was not handled properly. He stated the accusations were unfounded and directed to the Town. He stated that if you do not respond properly in the media it will not attract employees or tourists to the Town. He explained why he brought this forward. He would like to look into hiring a firm that will fit the Town better to respond.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Rose to look into a crisis manager, seconded by Commissioner Meisheid for discussion purposes.

Mayor Danzinger stated they are not hiring anyone but they would like to have someone on a rolodex in the event they need someone.

Commissioner Velasquez asked Town Manager Hyatt how fast was he able to obtain a public relations firm when the collapse took place. She asked why they need to have a public relations firm on hand. She stated that they do not need this.

Town Manager Hyatt stated it was immediate.

Vice Mayor Rose stated that he is fine with having it on the rolodex in the event it is needed. He stated that Frank Trigueros has done a great job.

Mayor Danzinger asked who did they call when these two stories broke and if they had anyone on the rolodex to call.

Town Manager Hyatt stated it was handled inhouse and the only ones he used, which was only needed when the collapse took place, was News Director and Pinzur.

Mayor Danzinger stated that is all they want is to have someone on the rolodex.

Commissioner Landsman stated he does not believe this is necessary and possibly put as part of the job description and experience for the Communications Manager position opening. He stated that the Town Manager has discretion to obtain services under \$25,000 and he will find someone to help with the situation.

Mayor Danzinger stated that they do not have that position currently and reiterated the issues at hand and if they fill the position full time that is great but it was not handled properly. This will allow the Town Manager to have the resources.

Commissioner Meisheid stated that she would prefer to be proactive instead of reactive and have someone in the rolodex.

The motion carried with 3-2 vote with Commissioner Velasquez and Commissioner Landsman voting in opposition.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Rose to extend the meeting for 5 minutes, seconded by Commissioner Landsman. The motion carried with 5-0 vote.

9B. Future Format of Town Gazette

Item was deferred from the August 9, 2022 Special Town Commission Meeting.

Town Manager Hyatt stated that they have dealt with issues with USPS. He stated that they are not going to stop printing the gazette but sending it electronically. He provided a summary of the problems they have encountered with the post office and the distribution date. He would like guidance to see if they can try this for a while. He stated that they will have a list of seniors and those that are not tech savvy and they will still be able to print

and have some delivered.

Mayor Danzinger suggested to put it on the table.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Rose to extend the meeting 5 meeting, seconded by Commissioner Velasquez. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

Commissioner Landsman agrees to look at alternatives due to the issues encountered with distribution.

Commissioner Meisheid would like to know how the distribution would be with those that would like to receive them in the mail.

Communications and Tourism Director Trigueros addressed the question from Commissioner Meisheid. He stated their priority is focused on the seniors and they have a list identified and those will have the gazette delivered.

Commissioner Velasquez does not believe they should stop mailing out the gazette and the problem might be at the condominiums.

Vice Mayor Rose suggested having it in the lobbies of all the condominiums or in their mail rooms as well as in Town Hall lobby.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Rose to extend the meeting 3 minutes, seconded by Commissioner Landsman. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

Mayor Danzinger spoke regarding still having the printed form and to distribute. He agreed with putting the copies in the mail room or lobby.

Communications and Tourism Director Trigueros stated that they changed the vendor and spoke regarding the fact that they have to close the publication early in order to meet distribution deadlines.

Mayor Danzinger appreciates the work being done.

10. Adjournment

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Rose to adjourn the meeting at 12:13 a.m. (August 10, 2022), seconded by Commissioner Landsman. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

Accepted this 13th day of September, 2022.



Shlomo Danzinger, Mayor

Attest:



Sandra N. McCready, MPA, MMC
Town Clerk