



**Town of Surfside**  
**Special Town Commission Meeting**  
**MINUTES**  
**November 15, 2022**  
**5:30 PM**  
Commission Chambers

**1. Opening**

Mayor Danzinger called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

**1.A Roll Call of Members**

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

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

**1.B Call to Order**

**1.C Pledge of Allegiance**

Chief Torres provided the pledge of allegiance.

**2. Mayor, Commission and Staff Communication**

**2.A Utilities Undergrounding Project Residential Street Light Upgrade Options - Andrew Hyatt, Town Manager**

Town Administration is seeking guidance on the selection of residential streetlights due to Utilities Undergrounding Project.

Town Manager Hyatt introduced the item and Paul Abbott the consultant on the project.

Paul Abbott presented the different options for the street lighting and requested guidance on the selection due to the utilities undergrounding project.

Mayor Danzinger opened the floor to public comments.

The following individual from the public spoke:

George Kousoulas spoke regarding different consideration with traditional lighting,

and he would recommend option B.

Mayor Danzinger closed public comment.

Commissioner Meischeid asked if this light project would take place after the undergrounding project.

Mr. Abbott stated it would be in conjunction and concurrent with the undergrounding project.

Commissioner Landsman asked if the intent would be to make a motion providing an option. He stated that his concern is that they have 5 designs and they might have 5 different choices. He stated that they would be making a decision for a community that has different suggested likes for the street lights. He asked if there would be an easier way to have some choices and have community input.

Commissioner Velasquez likes Option A and Option D. She asked if they could put banners on any of the designs.

Mr. Abbott stated that the banner is an option for any of the fixtures they would choose.

Vice Mayor Rose stated that the banner would be good for the downtown area. He likes Option B and Option D.

Commissioner Landsman likes Option D.

Commissioner Meischeid likes Option B.

Mayor Danzinger asked regarding the lighting supply chain and asked if the light fixtures are included in the budget.

Mr. Abbott stated it is included in the budget and what he is needing tonight is a choice of which fixture the Commission would like to choose.

Mayor Danzinger asked if they could get more options. He spoke regarding some concerns with some of the options provided like Option E which has the light shooting upwards. He spoke regarding the projection of the light.

Mr. Abbott stated that it was their responsibility to give them all of the options. He addressed the questions from the Mayor.

Mayor Danzinger stated that they should concentrate on the options that will be best and he would like to see more options focused on projecting more to the streets and more modern options.

Mr. Abbott stated that yes he could bring more options.

Mayor Danzinger would like to address those areas that are dark and if they do customized poles they might not be able to do it a year from now when a resident

complains that their street is too dark. He spoke regarding the lighting study that was put on hold.

Mr. Abbott stated that he will resend to the Commission the original lighting study that was performed and how they came up with their estimate. He stated that you cannot design the type of lighting until you choose the fixture.

Mayor Danzinger stated that they should know how many will be ordered. He asked if the banners are configurable and can they be changed.

Mr. Abbott stated that they have not ordered any and they are getting the data from all the utility providers. He provided his suggestions as it pertains to the banners.

Mayor Danzinger asked Commissioner Landsman as the liaison from Planning and Zoning if they should go before the Planning and Zoning Board.

Commissioner Velasquez asked if it fits in their town why should they have to go before another board which will delay everything.

Mr. Abbott reiterated that they would love to get down to 2 or 3 options and then they would have physical mock ups built so they could see them as live representations.

Ruben Bravo, Planning and Zoning Board Member, thanked the Commission for doing this and asked how readily available are these poles and possibly seeing more options that are more in tune with the architecture in town.

Mayor Danzinger stated that Option A is the one that shines light into the street and would like to see more options.

Mr. Abbott stated yes and explained the options again.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Rose to move forward with options A and D, seconded by Commissioner Velasquez.

Mayor Danzinger asked if they could modify their motion to add more options.

The motion failed with a 2-3 vote with Commissioner Landsman, Commissioner Meisheid and Mayor Danzinger voting in opposition.

Mayor Danzinger passed the gavel.

A motion was made by Mayor Danzinger to have Mr. Abbott bring back five more options with a six foot pole with a more modern look, seconded by Vice Mayor Rose.

Commissioner Velasquez asked if it would raise the pricing.

The motion carried with a 4-1 vote with Commissioner Velasquez voting in opposition.

[Exhibit A - "Options"](#)

## **2.B Town-wide Traffic Study Update by Engineer of Record - The Corradino Group - Andrew Hyatt, Town Manager**

Town Manager Hyatt introduced the item.

Eric Czerniejewski, Corradino Group provided an update regarding the comprehensive traffic study the Town is currently undertaking.

Commissioner Landsman asked about the time frame of the project.

Mr. Czerniejewskinaski stated that it still looks like it will be completed next year.

Commissioner Velasquez asked if this study has the possibility of closing Byron Avenue and gating the community.

Mr. Czerniejewski stated that they have to look at the impact and there is a whole process. He stated the gating of the community is a whole entire process which includes a special taxing district and they would have to do a different and separate traffic study which goes through Miami Dade County, which includes a petition that goes to the residents. He stated that there is a whole process and the closing of Byron Avenue will be evaluated.

Vice Mayor Rose asked if this is a soft gate which can be manned like San Souci.

Mr. Czerniejewski stated that in their study neither one is included.

Public Works Director Gomez asked not to include it in this traffic study and to do a separate study in order for it not to impact this study any further.

Further discussion took place among the Commission and Mr. Czerniejewski regarding the different devices being taken into consideration for this study as well as the timeline.

## **2.C Downtown Walkability Design and Public Outreach Guidance - Andrew Hyatt, Town Manager**

Town Administration requests further guidance on Downtown Walkability design and public outreach in order to proceed.

Town Manager Hyatt introduced the item and Town Planner Frankel.

Town Planner Frankel provided an overview and requested guidance on the Downtown Walkability design and public outreach in order to proceed. She provided a PowerPoint presentation with the different alternatives as well as the different alternatives for the parklets.

Mayor Danzinger gave an overview of what took place in the past meetings.

Commissioner Velasquez asked if it was 2 parklets before and now there are more. She would prefer to start with something smaller and see how it goes.

Town Planner Frankel explained the locations of the parklets.

Mayor Danzinger opened public comment.

The following individual from the public spoke:

George Kousoulas stated that the Town Planner gave a great synopsis and provided his input.

Vice Mayor Rose liked the presentation, and he believes that Option 1 is great idea. He believes that they won't see anything probably for another 14 months or so but believes we should move forward with the design.

Commissioner Meischeid stated that she also likes option 1 and having 6-8 parklets that are 8 x 22 feet.

Commissioner Landsman asked if there a funds available to move forward.

Assistant Town Manager Greene stated that in December they could come with a resolution, and he stated that there should be funding available in the transportation fund, but they will look to see where they could fund this from.

Mayor Danzinger wanted to make sure this is for the design.

Commissioner Velasquez asked if this is just for the design or are they talking about approving \$70,000 or \$120,000. She stated that what they want to approve is the entire \$120,000.

Mayor Danzinger stated that what they want is to approve the entire design.

Mayor Danzinger asked if they have an estimate of how much this project would cost.

Town Planner Frankel stated it would be about \$600,000.

Consultant Town Planner Keller stated that the other park of the project is also the intersections being redone and make a gateway treatment to the Town. He stated that the big chunk is to do the construction drawings. He stated the construction for alternative 1 is about \$500,000.

Mayor Danzinger asked if this includes new sidewalks.

Consultant Planner Keller stated it does not include new sidewalks but the sidewalk treatments would be done in the designated areas. He stated that the measurements provided by Commissioner Meischeid might not be the correct measurements.

Mayor Danzinger stated that safety is very important. He asked Town Manager Hyatt to move ahead with nonslipping texture as a nontripping safety.

Town Manager Hyatt stated yes, they are already doing it.

Mayor Danzinger expressed his concerns. He stated that his recommendation is to defer the parklets to DVAC for them to determine which areas should have the parklets.

Commissioner Velasquez stated the major problem is walkability and will these parklets fix the walkability issue.

Mayor Danzinger stated he would like to also see improvement to the sidewalks. He spoke regarding options 2 and 3 to create more walkability but nobody wanted to lose parking.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Rose to move forward with option 1 of the design walkability, seconded by Commissioner Meisheid. The motion carried with a 4-1 vote with Commissioner Velasquez voting in opposition.

A motion was made by Mayor Danzinger to move item 2D (Parking Trust Fund) and item 2E (Incorporating Sustainability and Resiliency Into Town Planning) to the Regular Commission Meeting starting at 7:00 p.m. under item 9 (Mayor, Commission and Staff Communication), seconded by Commissioner Meisheid. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

[Scope Downtown Walkability Phase 2.pdf](#)

## **2.D Parking Trust Fund - Andrew Hyatt, Town Manager**

Deferred to the 7:00 p.m. Regular Commission Meeting on November 15, 2022.

[Parking Trust Additional Information.pdf](#)

## **2.E Incorporating Sustainability and Resiliency Into Town Planning. - Commissioner Marianne Meisheid**

A motion to re-establish the resiliency capabilities under the planning function of the Town. This would be a resource under the Town Planner or supplied by one of the third-party firms working for the Town, such as the Marlin Group.

The task would be to identify and propose improvements to the sustainability and resiliency for various town elements found in the Comprehensive Plan. At a minimum, the Town Planner would prepare an annual Town Sustainability and Resiliency Assessment. This assessment would create/update an inventory of the town's elements (e.g. the elevations of buildings and homes above sea level), would establish the magnitude of any threats, and would bolster initiatives for the town's resilience (e.g. determine the proper and consistent height for seawalls).

Deferred to the 7:00 p.m. Regular Commission Meeting on November 15, 2022.

## **3. Adjournment**

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Rose to adjourn the meeting without objection at 6:54 p.m., seconded by Commissioner Landsman. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

Accepted this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2022.

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Shlomo Danzinger, Mayor

Attest:

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Sandra N. McCready, MPA, MMC  
Town Clerk