



Town of Surfside
Regular Town Commission Meeting
MINUTES
June 13, 2023
6:00 PM

Commission Chambers - 9293 Harding Avenue
Surfside, FL 33154

1. Opening

1A. Call to Order

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

1B. 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 Fred Landsman and Commissioner Nelly Velasquez.

Also Present: Town Manager Hector Gomez, Town Attorney Lillian Arango and Town Attorney Tony Recio.

1C. Pledge of Allegiance

Chief Healy provided the pledge of allegiance.

1D. Mayor and Commission Remark - Mayor Shlomo Danzinger

Commissioner Landsman thanked the heroes attending and thanked everyone attending.

Commissioner Meisheid hopes that everyone had a good Memorial Day and spoke regarding the Charter Review Committee and the schedule has been set back due to lack of quorum and encouraged the Commissioners to contact their appointees.

Commissioner Velasquez thanked everyone in attendance and the Police Department and Fire Department for assisting during the collapse and also thanked our Senator Shevrin Jones.

Vice Mayor Rose stated this month of the month of remembrance and encouraged everyone to hug their loved ones. He thanked the Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting and the generosity of Committee Member Olchyk and thanked her.

Mayor Danzinger recognized the elected officials present, Senator Shevrin Jones, Israeli Consul General Mayor Elbaz Strarinsky, former Mayor Eli Tourgeman, former Vice Mayor Frank MacBride, Miami Dade County Public Safety Director Freddy Ramirez, Miami Dade County Fire Rescue Department Chief Ralph Baena and his command staff and Dr. Yonah Bardos, Hatzalah.

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

Mayor Danzinger requested the below changes to the agenda.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Rose to add a new item (item 1K - Board and Committee Chairs Presentation) to be heard after item 1J (Approve and Present Proclamation-Code Enforcement Officers Appreciation Week), seconded by Commissioner Landsman. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Rose to move item 9D (Recommendation from the Tourist Board for the Installation of SURFSIDE Word Monument at Town Hall as a Tourism Enhancement Feature) to be heard after item 2 (Quasi-Judicial Hearings), item 9B (Downtown Walkability and Improvements Design Phase) to be heard after item 9D (Recommendation from the Tourist Board for the Installation of SURFSIDE Word Monument at Town Hall as a Tourism Enhancement Feature) and item 9C (Abbott Avenue Stormwater Improvement Project Update) to be heard after item 9B (Downtown Walkability and Improvements Design Phase), seconded by Commissioner Velasquez. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Rose to add the appointment to the Tourist Board by Mayor Danzinger after item 9C (Abbott Avenue Stormwater Improvement Project Update) as new item 1L (Appointment to the Tourist Board), seconded by Commissioner Meischeid. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

1F. Community Notes - Mayor Shlomo Danzinger

Mayor Danzinger spoke regarding the past events that took place and appreciated the residents that were in attendance. He recognized the Town staff and stated that Priscilla Krutules, Assistant Town Clerk, has been here for 20 years and thanked her for what she does. He also thanked Captain Antonio Marciante for his 5 years of service with the Town of Surfside Police Department.

1G. Legislative Update by Senator Shevrin D. Jones - Shlomo Danzinger, Mayor

Florida State Senator Shevrin Jones provided a legislative update and spoke regarding the different Senate Bills including the condominium bill.

Mayor Danzinger thanked Senator Jones for all his hard work for the appropriations and thanked him for helping the Town obtain the additional \$500,000 for the Champlain Towers South investigation.

Commissioner Meischeid asked regarding the condominium town hall meeting that she attended and when they will get some updates.

Senator Jones stated they will be meeting with Senator Pizzo and provide an update.

1H. Proclamation Presentation for Surfside Heroes Appreciation Month - Shlomo Danzinger, Mayor

Mayor Danzinger introduced the item, read and presented the proclamation.

Town Manager Gomez thanked the Town of Surfside staff and Police Department for their hard work during the most difficult time in the history of Surfside.

Chief Healy thanked staff and his officers for their hard work during the collapse.

Miami Dade County Public Safety Director Freddy Ramirez thanked everyone and stated that two years ago a great tragedy hit this Town and all the decisions were made for the best of those family members.

Miami Dade County Fire Chief Ralph Baena thanked everyone for the proclamation and spoke regarding the hard work during the collapse.

Israeli Consul General Mayor Elbaz Strarinsky thanked Mayor Danzinger and provided an overview of his experience during the collapse.

Dr. Yonah Bardos, Hatzalah, thanked the Town for recognizing all the first responders

[Surfside Heroes Proclamation.pdf](#)

1I. Approve and Present Proclamation - Code Enforcement Officers' Appreciation Week - Shlomo Danzinger, Mayor

For the commission to approve the proclamation as submitted.

Mayor Danzinger introduced the item, read and presented the proclamation.

Code Enforcement Director Carmen Santos-Alborna thanked the Commission.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Rose to approve the Code Enforcement Officer's Appreciation Week Proclamation, seconded by Commissioner Meischeid. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

[Code Enforcement Officers Appreciation Week - Request - June 2023.pdf](#)

[Code Enforcement Officers Appreciation Week - June 2023.pdf](#)

1J. Approve and Present Proclamation - National Teachers Appreciation Week - Shlomo Danzinger, Mayor

For the commission to approve the proclamation as submitted.

Mayor Danzinger introduced the item, read and presented the proclamation. He thanked one of our residents who was named Teacher of the Year, Celida Cuenca.

Celida Cuenca, resident and Teacher of the Year thanked the Commission.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Rose to approve the National Teachers Appreciation Week Proclamation, seconded by Commissioner Velasquez. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

[Teachers Appreciation Week - Request - May 2023.pdf](#)

[Teachers Appreciation Week - May 2023.pdf](#)

1K.) Board and Committee Chairs Presentation

Planning and Zoning Board Chair Baumel provided an overview of the items and applications the Planning and Zoning Board have reviewed. She encouraged everyone to attend the meeting.

Mayor Danzinger stated the process of the items that go before the Planning and Zoning Board and thanked them for their service.

Tourist Board Chair Eli Tourgeman provided an overview of the items the Board have reviewed, future activities and provided a summary of those events.

1L.) Appointment to the Tourist Board

Mayor Danzinger thanked the Tourist Board and he has received good comments regarding their events.

Mayor Danzinger passed the gavel.

A motion was made by Mayor Danzinger to appoint David Karp to serve on the Tourist Board, seconded by Commissioner Landsman. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

2. Quasi-Judicial Hearings

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

A motion was made by Commissioner Landsman to recess the meeting at 8:01 p.m. for 14

minutes until 8:15 p.m., seconded by Vice Mayor Rose. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

Meeting resumed at 8:18 p.m.

Town Clerk McCready called the roll with all members of the Commission present.

3A. Town Commission Meeting Minutes - Sandra N. McCready, Town Clerk

Approved on consent.

[May 9, 2023 Regular Town Commission Meeting Minutes.pdf](#)

[May 10, 2023 Special Town Commission Meeting Minutes.pdf](#)

[May 17, 2023 Special Town Commission Meeting Minutes.pdf](#)

3B. Board and Committee Reports/Minutes - Sandra N. McCready, Town Clerk

Approved on consent.

[2023-04-04 Pension Board Meeting Minutes.pdf](#)

[2023-04-17 Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes.pdf](#)

[2023-04-19 Charter Review Board Meeting Minutes.pdf](#)

[2023-04-27 Planning and Zoning Board Meeting Minutes.pdf](#)

4. Ordinances

Second Reading

4A1. Zoning Code Correction - Applicability of Planning and Zoning Board Review

- Hector Gomez Town Manager

Staff recommends removing the following property alterations from Planning and Zoning Board review. If approved, these additional items would be added to Sec. 90-19.7 and reviewed for compatibility with the zoning code by staff only:

- Front Yard Fences and gates
- Garage Conversions
- Carports
- Window Signs in SD-B40
- Business District SD-B40 Awnings
- Wall Opening (window and door) changes on existing homes not visible from a public right-of-way
- Rear Yard Pools
- Rear Yard Decks
- Rooftop Mechanical Equipment
- Ground-level mechanical not visible from a public right-of-way

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

Town Manager Gomez provided an overview of the item.

Town Attorney Recio introduced the item and provided an update on the recommendations from the Planning and Zoning Board and the changes to the ordinance from first and second reading. He stated they would amend line 30 to properly reflect the recommendations from the Planning and Zoning Board.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Rose to approve the ordinance as written for all single-family standard fences and gates within H30A and H30B to go to the Town Planner and anything else would go before the Planning and Zoning Board, seconded by Commissioner Landsman.

Mayor Danzinger opened the floor to public comments.

The following individual from the public spoke:

Eliana Salzhauer advised for them to go with the recommendation that they received from the Planning and Zoning Board.

Mayor Danzinger closed the floor to public comments.

Mayor Danzinger addressed the comments made.

Vice Mayor Rose explained that if they are standard fences and gates, it would be up to the Town Planner for approval and anything more intricate would go before the Planning and Zoning Board.

Commissioner Landsman stated that there will be an expert, which is the Town Planner, looking at this based on the design review guidelines and if need be it would go to the Board.

The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

[Ordinance_Re_Applicability_of_PZB_Review_-_SR.docx](#)

4A2. Zoning Code Correction - Garage Conversion Criteria - Hector Gomez Town Manager

Staff recommends approval of this ordinance in order to clarify the acceptable design of garage conversions in single-family zoning districts and to allow for the compatibility of another ordinance removing front garage conversions from Planning and Zoning Board review.

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

Town Manager Gomez introduced the item.

Town Attorney Recio introduced the item and provided an update on the recommendations from the Planning and Zoning Board.

Mayor Danzinger opened the floor to public comments.

There were no public speakers.

Mayor Danzinger closed the floor to public comments.

A motion was made by Commissioner Landsman to approve the ordinance on second reading as written, seconded by Vice Mayor Rose. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

[Ordinance_Re_Garage_Conversions_SR.docx](#)

4A3. Zoning Code Correction - Design Requirements for Front Yard Fences and Gates - Hector Gomez Town Manager

Staff recommends approval of this ordinance in order to clarify the acceptable design of front yard fences and gates in single-family zoning districts and to allow for the compatibility of another ordinance removing front yard fences, gates and walls from Planning and Zoning Board review.

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

Town Attorney Recio introduced the item and provided an update on the recommendations from the Planning and Zoning Board.

Mayor Danzinger opened the floor to public comments.

The following individuals from the public spoke:

Eliana Salzhauer spoke in opposition of this ordinance.

George Kousoulas spoke regarding following the recommendations of the Planning and Zoning Board.

Mayor Danzinger closed the floor to public comments.

Mayor Danzinger addressed the comments made by the public speakers.

A motion was made by Commissioner Landsman to approve the ordinance on second reading within H30A and H30B to allow the Town Planner to review and approve fences and gates, and for all other districts to be reviewed by Planning and Zoning Board, seconded by Vice Mayor Rose. The motion carried with a 4-0 vote with Commissioner Velasquez absent for roll call.

[Sec. 90-56. Fences walls and hedges.docx](#)

[Ord_Amend_Section_90-56_Fences__Walls_and_Gates_SR.docx](#)

4A4. Zoning Code Correction - Balcony Projections - Hector Gomez Town Manager

Staff recommends approval of this ordinance to amend the zoning code by removing the balcony overhang provision (Sec. 90-47.7) and including the "modified side setback" in the balcony restrictions (Sec. 90-47.6).

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

Town Manager Gomez provided an overview of the item.

Town Attorney Recio introduced the item and provided an update on the recommendations from the Planning and Zoning Board.

Mayor Danzinger opened the floor to public comments.

The following individuals from the public spoke:

Eliana Salzhauer spoke in opposition of this ordinance.

George Kousoulas clarified the comment made by the previous speaker.

Mayor Danzinger closed the floor to public comments.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Rose to approve the ordinance on second reading, seconded by Commissioner Meischeid. The motion carried with a 4-1 vote with Commissioner Velasquez voting in opposition.

[Ordinance_Re_Balcony_Overhangs__H120_SR.docx](#)

First Reading

4B1. Synthetic Turf - Hector Gomez Town Manager

Staff recommends review of the synthetic turf ordinance as presented in order to allow for a high quality and permeable synthetic turf option in the single-family home zoning districts.

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

Town Manager Gomez provided an overview of the item.

Town Attorney Recio introduced the item and provided an overview of the ordinance.

Mayor Danzinger opened the floor to public comments.

The following individuals from the public spoke:

Eliana Salzhauer spoke against the ordinance.

George Kousoulas spoke regarding looking at the landscape code.

Mayor Danzinger closed the floor to public comments.

Commissioner Landsman asked Town Attorney Recio to explain how this ordinance was drafted and how other portions of the Code will interact.

Town Attorney Recio provided an explanation of the requirements of landscape which are addressed in lines 84, 85 and 86 in the ordinance. He stated that lines 93, 94 and 95 count towards the pervious area. He addressed the comments made by the public. He explained all other components of this ordinance.

Commissioner Velasquez asked if this is only for new installs as it relates to the

barriers.

Town Attorney Recio stated that as of right now they would not require a visual barrier if it was already installed.

Mayor Danzinger spoke regarding the time frame and life span of the turf and at what time do you ask them to update it and they must still meet code. He asked if they could add a timeline for second reading.

Town Planner Frankel addressed the comment made regarding deterioration and color change. She referred to line 173 and it has to be reviewed every 3 years by Code Compliance and they could apply that to existing installations as well.

Further discussion took place among staff and the Commission regarding when it should be changed and/or replaced as well as landscape requirements.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Rose to approve the ordinance on first reading with changes to line 123 and 124 to state installed by a "licensed contractor" and remove the word general and state, add to check the installation every 3 years or sooner and apply it to the grandfathered properties as well and for new constructions require trees and shrubs, seconded by Commissioner Landsman. The motion carried with a 4-1 vote with Commissioner Meischeid voting in opposition.

[Ordinance Synthetic Turf .DOCX](#)

[Attachment A: Synthetic Grass Code Cases since 2017](#)

[Attachment B: Open Code Cases](#)

[Attachment C: ROW Synthetic Turf Detail](#)

4B2. Zoning Code Amendment: Restaurants in H120 as an Accessory Use - Hector Gomez, Town Manager

Staff recommends consideration of this ordinance, as an accessory restaurant is no less compatible with multifamily residential than it is with a hotel and may be beneficial to the Town's residents and visitors by providing alternative dining options. Additional dining locations may further enliven the waterfront district by allowing for greater walkable destinations.

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

Town Attorney Recio introduced the item and provided an overview of the ordinance.

Mayor Danzinger opened the floor to public comments.

The following individuals from the public spoke:

Eliana Salzhauer spoke against the ordinance.

Gerardo Vildostegui spoke against the ordinance.

George Kousoulas spoke in favor of the ordinance.

Mayor Danzinger closed the floor to public comments.

Mayor Danzinger addressed the comments made and stated it is a conditional use and it must go before the Commission for approval and provided specifics of the requirements.

Commissioner Velasquez stated she is fine with this but wants to make sure they are not bringing a McDonalds or something like that.

Mayor Danzinger reiterated the requirements.

Vice Mayor Rose clarified misinformation that was posted on NextDoor which are lies.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Rose to approve the ordinance on first reading, seconded by Commissioner Meisheid. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Rose to extend the meeting 45 minutes at 10:59 p.m., seconded by Commissioner Landsman. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

[Ordinance Amending H120 Uses to Add Restaurant](#)

[Attachment A: Current Zoning Code Regulated Uses by District](#)

4B3. Creation of Chapter 76 "Public Rights-of-way" in the Town Code of Ordinances - Hector Gomez, Town Manager

Town staff recommends approving this ordinance in order to provide clarity on allowances and permitting process for Town right-of-way encroachments and creating a mechanism for Public Works Right of Way permit fee structure.

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

Town Manager Gomez provided an overview of the item.

Town Attorney Recio introduced the item and provided an overview of the ordinance.

Mayor Danzinger opened the floor to public comments.

The following individuals from the public spoke:

Gerardo Vildostegui spoke against the ordinance.

George Kousoulas spoke regarding the setbacks.

Eliana Salzhauer spoke against the ordinance.

Mayor Danzinger closed the floor to public comments.

Mayor Danzinger stated that fences are not allowed on the right of ways, and this speaks to older homes. This is not to allow more fences on the right of way but to deal with what currently exists. He stated this is for the Town reserving the right to taking back their portion of the property and if they need to dig up anything that is on the right of way, they do not have to replace it since the owner encroached on the right of way.

Vice Mayor Rose asked the Town Attorney to clarify the ordinance.

Town Attorney Recio clarified the comments made and what is allowed and what is not allowed.

Further discussion took place regarding what can be done to address the issue being presented with the right of way.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Rose to approve the ordinance on first reading as written, seconded by Mayor Danzinger. The motion carried with a 3-2 vote with Commissioner Velasquez and Commissioner Meischeid voting in opposition.

[Ordinance Rights-of-Way Creating Chapter 76.DOCX](#)

[Attachment A - Property Owners Encroachment Agreement 2023.docx](#)

5. Resolutions and Proclamations

If the public wishes to speak on any matters in this section of the agenda, they must inform the Town Clerk by completing a speaker card and they will be recognized to speak at the beginning of this section.

5A. Authorization to Contract with Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. (Kimley-Horn) for the Project Agreement for Design Services pertaining to Surfside Boulevard Beautification Project from Bay Drive to Harding Avenue - Hector Gomez, Town Manager

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

Town Manager Gomez introduced the item.

Town Attorney Arango provided an overview of the resolution.

Mayor Danzinger opened the floor to public comments.

There were no public speakers.

Mayor Danzinger closed the floor to public comments.

Mayor Danzinger stated there are other streets to consider and asked if it could come back next month with a more comprehensive plan where it address the other streets.

Town Manager Gomez addressed the comment by the Mayor and stated the ways it could be addressed.

Mayor Danzinger stated he is comfortable with adding a task order.

Commissioner Velasquez stated the funding was provided for this street not for other streets.

Mayor Danzinger requested a comprehensive design for the other streets. He stated he wants them to keep in mind that what you are building on 91st Street will impact the other streets.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Rose to approve the resolution as written with the additional task order that this project can be scalable to the other streets without incurring additional cost and if there is additional cost it must come before the Commission, seconded by Commissioner Velasquez. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Rose to extend the meeting 20 minutes at 11:45 p.m., seconded by Commissioner Landsman. The motion carried with a 4-0 vote.

Commissioner Velasquez left the meeting at 11:45 p.m.

[Resolution Approve Proposal & Project Agreement with Kimley Horn - Surfside Blvd. Improvements](#)

[Exhibit A - Kimley-Horn Proposal dated 5/17/2023](#)

[Exhibit B - Kimley-Horn - Project Agreement - Surfside Boulevard Beautification Project.DOCX](#)

6. Good and Welfare (Set for approximately 8:15 p.m.)
Public comments for subjects or items not on the agenda.

Mayor Danzinger opened the floor to public comments.

The following individuals from the public spoke:

Joshua Epstein spoke regarding the order of the agenda and flooding.

Jeff Platt spoke regarding the closure of the street and changing it to make it easier for pedestrians is not better.

Gerardo Vildostegui spoke regarding Damac regarding the design of the former Champlain Towers South site and the setbacks. He also spoke regarding the Mayor showing the expenses of his trip to Dubai.

George Kousoulas spoke regarding general design. He stated they have to evaluate if the design is the correct one.

Eliana Salzhauer spoke regarding the order of the agenda and moving items around. She spoke regarding the Downtown Walkability and no resident input. She spoke regarding the plans Damac presented.

Martin Langesfeld spoke regarding the memorial committee, and they are not receiving any updates.

Hanah Wasserman stated she is a member of the design committee for the memorial and supports Mr. Langesfeld. She spoke regarding having space for the memorial.

Mayor Danzinger closed the floor to public comments.

Commissioner Landsman thanked the speakers for their comments. He addressed the comments made by the speakers and have great respect for those that lost loved ones. He

stated this Commission is trying to do the best they can with what they have to work with. He stated this is dealing with private property and they will do the best they can and do it right.

Commissioner Meischeid spoke regarding the time of the meetings changing and obtaining consistency and possibly work better with that. She spoke regarding designs coming from Damac that they need to look at very carefully. She addressed the comments regarding the option of the wedding cake and the 10% vs. the 10 feet and they can work on that. She stated it is terrible that a resident has to lie about a commissioner.

Commissioner Velasquez stated that the changes in time and order of the agenda have always been done to accommodate residents and vendors that have to come and speak. She stated that the items that were moved up were discussion items, so the residents do not have to wait until 10 pm and it is a normal thing, and Ms. Salzhauer used to sit on the dais as a Commissioner and knew they did that in the past as well. She also spoke regarding the 10% and she remembers it being 10% and not 10 feet and she would request taking another look at that. She addressed the comments made regarding the memorial and she cannot guarantee it would be on the property itself because it is not in their jurisdiction, and it was not in the judge's jurisdiction. She stated that they will help and work on building the memorial.

Vice Mayor Rose agrees that the site is private property, and they cannot do anything about that, but the permanent memorial will take place on 88th Street. He addressed the flooding taking place all around town and spoke regarding permeability. He stated there is no P3 going on there and the meetings have been reorganized as before. He stated Ordinance 21-1716, under the previous commission spoke regarding 10 feet and never did it mention 10% and it went through 2 readings and the Planning and Zoning Board.

Mayor Danzinger addressed the comments made regarding the order of the agenda and explained the reasoning behind moving some items up and wanted to move item 9A up for the family members. He stated this is to be more accommodating to the residents. He addressed the comments regarding flooding and understories and artificial turf help with flooding. He spoke regarding outdoor dining. He addressed the other comments made by the public. He stated that there have been multiple public records requests regarding his Dubai trip and there is nothing to show. He stated that Damac did not put two plans violating code and they will see that once it goes before the Planning and Zoning. He thanked the families for coming out today. He stated 88th Street was dedicated for a memorial but never stated a size.

Town Manager Gomez provided an overview of the Champlain Tower South Memorial and the RFQ and what they are looking for in a design firm. He spoke regarding a resolution that was passed which gave the Town Manager the authority to start the process of the

closure of 88th Street and explained that resolution. He also provided a timeline of the evolvment of the memorial.

Mayor Danzinger stated they can reach out to any members of the Commission or the Town Manager for any information.

7. Town Manager and Town Attorney Reports

7A. Town Manager's Report - Hector Gomez, Town Manager

Town Manager Gomez provided an overview of his Town Manager's Report.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Rose to approve the Town Manager's Report, seconded by Commissioner Landsman. The motion carried with a 4-0 vote with Commissioner Velasquez absent..

[June 2023 Town Manager's Report.pdf](#)

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

Town Attorney Arango provided an overview of his Town Attorney's Report. She stated that the court found in favor of the Town in the Solimar case. She also provided an update on the other pending litigation cases.

Mayor Danzinger congratulated the Town Attorney on the ruling in the Solimar case.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Rose to approve the Town Attorney's Report, seconded by Commissioner Landsman. The motion carried with a 4-0 vote with Commissioner Velasquez absent.

[Town Attorney's Report.DOCX](#)

8. Unfinished Business and New Business

9. Mayor, Commission and Staff Communications

Mayor Danzinger opened the floor to public comment.

The following individual from the public spoke:

George Kousoulas spoke regarding items 9B (Downtown Walkability and Improvements Design Phase Update), 9C (Abbott Avenue Stormwater Improvement Project Update) and 9D (Recommendation from the Tourist Board for the Installation of SURFSIDE Word Monument at Town Hall as a Tourism Enhancement Feature).

Mayor Danzinger closed the floor to public comment.

9A. Champlain Towers South Investigation and Appropriation Update - Shlomo Danzinger, Mayor

To discuss the recently approved State Legislature funding allocating \$500,000 towards the Champlain Tower South Investigation and the impacts towards

investigation status.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Rose to move item 9A (Champlain Towers South Investigation and Appropriation Update) to be discussed immediately, seconded by Commissioner Landsman. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

Mayor Danzinger opened the floor to public comment.

The following individuals from the public spoke:

Eliana Salzhauer

Hanah Wasserman

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Rose for purposes of discussion, seconded by Commissioner Meisheid. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

Mayor Danzinger provided an update and overview of the Champlain Towers South Investigation and Appropriation.

9B. Downtown Walkability and Improvements Design Phase Update - Hector Gomez, Town Manager

Town Manager Gomez provided an update and overview of the Downtown Walkability and Improvements Design Phase.

A motion was made by Commissioner Meisheid for purposes of discussion, seconded by Commissioner Landsman. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

Town Planner Frankel provided a presentation along with Consultant Town Planner Walter Keller, Marlin Engineering.

Commissioner Velasquez stated it is a good idea, but the bottom line of this project is to create more walkability and how do these parklets provide more walkability.

Consultant Town Planner Keller addressed the comment made and provided scenarios and alternatives.

Town Manager stated that they are looking for direction from the Commission on the options and define a location and the number of spots in order to not impact FDOT's project.

Mayor Danzinger spoke regarding the presentation, the parklets and number of spots.

Further discussion took place among the Commission members, staff and Mr. Keller regarding the project specifics, parklets and expansion of the downtown and possibly putting it all on one side.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Rose to move forward with 30 spaces to be expanded out and move forward with this project, seconded by Commissioner Meisheid.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Rose to amend his previous motion to move forward with Alternative 2 and 16 spaces, seconded by Commissioner Meisheid. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

9C. Abbott Avenue Stormwater Improvement Project Update - Abbott Avenue Stormwater Improvement Project Update

A motion was made by Commissioner Landsman to table this item to be heard after Good and Welfare, seconded by Vice Mayor Rose. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

Town Manager Gomez provided an update and overview of the Abbott Avenue Stormwater Improvement Project.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Rose for purposes of discussion, seconded by Commissioner Velasquez. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

Carl Morales, Keith Engineering, provided a presentation and update on the item.

Commissioner Velasquez asked if they are only doing half the job why don't they pay for only half of the job and also asked regarding placing the pumps in the streets that have the biggest problem.

Public Works Director Stokes explained that 91st Street is the worst one and the reason why they are placing it on 92nd Street is because of the water main that is there and because there is already a pipe there.

Mr. Morales addressed the comments made by Commissioner Velasquez.

Commissioner Landsman asked regarding the pricing which is based on the other contractors. He stated that they will be going out again with another RFP for a more concrete pricing.

Further discussion took place among the Commission and Mr. Morales regarding the pricing and specifics of the project, location and assessment.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Rose to move forward with the drainage project with the money allocated from the grant money and seek further grant funding, seconded by Mayor Danzinger. The motion died with a 5-0 vote.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Rose to move forward with the project for RFP for value and engineer, seconded by Commissioner Landsman. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

[Attachment A - "Bid Opening"](#)

9D. Recommendation from the Tourist Board for the Installation of SURFSIDE Word Monument at Town Hall as a Tourism Enhancement Feature - Town Manager Hector Gomez

The Administration is seeking discussion and direction from the Town Commission to ratify and execute the attached proposal for a permanent, tourist-friendly Surfside letters display at Town Hall as recommended by the Tourist Board.

Town Manager Gomez provided an overview of the recommendation from the Tourist Board for the installation of "SURFSIDE" word monument at Town Hall.

Mayor Danzinger asked for the Tourist Board Chair to come and speak on the item.

Tourist Board Chair Tourgeman spoke on the item and provided a presentation.

Commissioner Landsman spoke regarding the dimensions of the sign and letters.

Comments were made by the Commission regarding safety concerns, the sign not fitting into Surfside and should not be in front of Town Hall or any government buildings. Suggestion was made that the sign should be on the beach and that things like this should come before the Commission. They do appreciate them bringing it to the Commission.

Consensus was reached by the Commission not to move forward with this sign at Town Hall.

Mayor Danzinger suggested for the Tourist Board to come back with suggestions of placing the sign at another location.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Rose for the Tourist Board to come back with alternate locations for the signage, painting the sign a way to match the color scheme of the Town and possibly to do a portable sign like the ones they use at other events, seconded by Commissioner Landsman. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Rose that any permanent structure that is to be installed in Town must come before the Town Commission, seconded by Commissioner Meisheid. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

[Exhibit A - Surfside Display Renderings.pdf](#)

[Exhibit B - Surfside Letters Materials, Elevation.pdf](#)

[Exhibit C - Surfside Letters Proposal.pdf](#)

9E. Wells for In-Ground Pools - Vice Mayor Jeffrey Rose

For the Town Commission to consider requiring wells for in-ground pools.

Vice Mayor Rose introduced the item and explained the need for wells for in-ground pools built in Town. He stated that neighbors have been complaining about what is taking place when they are installing inground pools.

Mayor Danzinger asked what the next steps would be.

Town Manager Gomez stated they can add that to their Public Works Standard Manual. He suggested adding it as part of the permitting procedure and what the

requirement would be.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Rose to require wells for inground pools being built in Town and for it to be made part of the permitting process, seconded by Commissioner Landsman. The motion carried with a 4-0 vote with Commissioner Velasquez absent.

9F. Business District Service Fee / Gratuity Notification - Commissioner Fred Landsman

For the Town Commission to consider requiring all local restaurants to clearly indicate either on their menu or on the check that the service fee/gratuity has been included. Also, if the "service fee" is added to the check, should it be properly labeled on the receipt in order to avoid customer confusion?

A motion was made by Commissioner Landsman for purposes of discussion, seconded by Commissioner Meisheid. The motion carried with a 4-0 vote with Commissioner Velasquez absent.

Commissioner Landsman introduced the item and spoke regarding the restaurants in Town providing more clarity when it comes to gratuity notification on checks and provided an example.

Commissioner Meisheid asked who will be policing that and believes this is a different department than Surfside.

Commissioner Landsman stated that he spoke with the Town Attorneys and they might be dealing with some home rule issue with the State and County. He continued with examples.

Mayor Danzinger stated he understands the frustration and it is misleading. He provided some of his concerns and issues which includes enforcement.

Town Attorney Arango stated what is allowed and required by restaurants.

Commissioner Landsman is looking for full disclosure by restaurants.

Mayor Danzinger understands he just wants to know if they are making themselves liable since there is legislation out there.

A motion was made by Commissioner Landsman asking the Town Attorney to look further into this and bring it back to the Commission as a discussion item, seconded by Vice Mayor Rose. The motion carried with a 4-0 vote with Commissioner Velasquez absent.

Vice Mayor Rose asked regarding the timing of the next meeting and do they have another budget workshop.

Town Manager Gomez stated there is another budget workshop and they will need at least an hour for that meeting.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Rose to start the next regular meeting at 6:00 p.m. and cancel the special meeting, seconded by Commissioner Landsman. The motion carried with a 4-0 vote with Commissioner Velasquez absent.

10. Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss before the Commission, a motion was made by Vice Mayor Rose to adjourn the meeting at 12:09 a.m. (June 14, 2023), seconded by Commissioner Landsman. The motion carried with a 4-0 vote with Commissioner Velasquez absent.

Accepted this _____ day of _____, 2023.

Mayor Shlomo Danzinger

Attest:

Sandra N. McCready, MPA, MMC
Town Clerk