

MINUTES OF SPECIAL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING OF FEBRUARY 28, 1994

Roll Call

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL. President Wiener called the Special Town Council Meeting to order at 9:30 AM on February 28, 1994 in the Town Hall Council Chambers. On roll call, the following elected officials were found to be in attendance: Mayor Ilyinsky, President Wiener, President Pro Tem Weinberg, Councilwomen Smith and Royal, and Councilman Shaw. Also attending were Town Manager Doney, Town Attorney Randolph, Chief Terlizzese, Chief Elmore, Mrs. Crozier, Mr. Dusey, Mr. Crouse, Mr. Elwell, Mr. Jakubiak, Mr. Bitzer, Mr. Moore, and for portions of the meeting Mrs. Reedy and Mrs. Peters.

Invocation

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Invocation was given by Town Attorney Randolph. Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Pro Tem Weinberg.

Appr.of Agenda

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Mrs. Smith moved the printed agenda be approved. Seconded by Mr. Weinberg. (No roll call was taken on this motion).

Mayor's Comments

MAYOR'S COMMENTS: Mayor Ilyinsky gave his comments: "As I am sure all of you in this room are fully aware and so are my colleagues that I've always been a rather avid supporter of our Police Department. The reasons for that are quite simple. My family and I have grown up in quite possibly the safest Town in the United States, run by quite possibly the best Chief of Police, with possibly the greatest work force of any Town I know. It was my pleasure the other day to have dinner on my boat on the West Coast with the Sheriff of Sanibel at Captiva Island who told me that we are the guiding light for police departments in this State, including some Sheriff's Departments and he admitted we were lucky because we live on a barrier reef and we could indeed raise the bridges like they did in the old days, but he goes a little beyond that. I have in front of me the report of Chief Terlizzese which he kindly sent over to me to read, and I am not the least bit surprised, for as far as I am concerned, it was a terrible waste of time - I knew it would come out exactly like that. But, Joe, if I may, in the public forum, congratulate you - your Assistant Chief of Police and all of your officers. And as far as I am concerned, if I go to prison for saying this - keep up the good work - keep asking people what the hell they are doing and just continue to be just the way you are and I am sure you have this Council and ninety nine and nine-tenths of a per cent of the population of this Town's one hundred per cent support. Congratulations."

President Wiener commented that all of the Council feel very strongly about the Police Department and all support them since they are doing the kind of job that every single Police Chief in the United States would like to be doing.

Town Manager's
comments on
Town Charter
& Code

II. TOWN MANAGER'S COMMENTS ON TOWN CHARTER AND CODE, INCLUDING COMMENTS ON ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES AND ELECTED OFFICIALS COMMUNICATIONS WITH STAFF. Mr. Doney believed it needed to be recognized that the Town Manager receives his direction from the Town Council and when the Town Council votes 3-2, whether or not he agrees or disagrees with that decision, the policy voted upon will be actively enforced and be implemented. He indicated this is difficult to do sometimes, however it is noted that the final policy decision the Town staff clearly understands it is the Town Council's policy.

He talked about the policy decisions which relate to issues involving the Town staff being asked to research or investigate certain issues, and thought it would be helpful when the Mayor or the Town Council wish this to be done, to have it brought up at the regular monthly Town Council meeting, either under Any Other Matters or under the Approval of Agenda, and the entire Council vote on it.

Mr. Doney stated another issue on either zoning matters or on administrative issues, the motions become lengthy and complex and he suggested that the Council at the end of a complex issue, clarify the motion.

Mr. Doney thought it would be helpful that if the Mayor or Town Council member have questions which relate to a particular departmental operation to call that particular department directly. He believed if there were to be research which would take up an unusual amount of time, the Department Head would notify him and he then would get the Town Council approval.

Mr. Doney indicated the Town Charter and Code sometimes make it difficult to communicate on a straightforward basis, and sometimes the staff has to move through the process slowly and there is frustration with the thought that they do not move quickly enough, but it always has to go back to the Town Council for policy direction and all need to make sure that the homework is complete and concise, before the policy decisions are made. He asked if the Mayor and Town Council had any items which they thought the staff should be doing to better serve, they should let him know so a better procedure can be put into place.

Mrs Wiener asked if the comments just made would not fall within the Charter if it were interpreted as written to which Mr. Doney responded affirmatively. Mrs. Wiener believed the mechanism is not being changed but rather they are underlining what is actually there, as this is a legislative body and it takes a majority of votes to change anything or have anything going on that would take up staff time.

Mr. Doney believed also that it was frustrating for an elected official who receives a call from a resident to which they wish to respond and if there is a lot of research to be undertaken, it would have to be a majority of the Council who would want them to proceed so staff does not move in a direction that may be counterproductive and perhaps could be at cross purposes for a particular Council member.

Mayor Ilyinsky commented this is a small town and there has always been a personal relationship between the members of the Town Council and the residents of the Town for many reasons, and he thought it was difficult to draw the line on what might effect everyone and what might effect a particular individual, as it is difficult to not stay in touch with one's constituents, without going through the various channels to get something done that could be taken care of very simply.

basis and if a conference looks especially beneficial and an elected official believes it will help them to perform their duties, he will put it on the agenda and have it authorized. Mrs. Wiener stated she wanted it to be scheduled on the agenda, as she has a problem with it not being on the agenda and doesn't want it under Any Other Matters with pages of back-up, and they should be aware of what is in front of them whenever there is a Council meeting and it should be listed on the agenda.

Consideration
of expendi-
tures by
elected
officials
(cont'd)

Mrs. Royal recalled certain members of the Council have been designated to be the representatives on certain bodies, and there are no expenditures for the local travel, but if there should be out-of-state travel necessary, would those expenses be paid? Mrs. Wiener responded it would be voted on by the entire Council.

Louis C. Pryor addressed the Council seeking clarification on a point, noting he was a member of the Mini-Perc Commission and it was his understanding that in the event there would be a meeting of the Commission called while he was away from Palm Beach, that his expenses to travel back to the Town would be reimbursed and if the answer is affirmative, he felt the same option should be open to the members of the Town Council. Mr. Doney responded that if there was an issue and an emergency meeting was called, he would authorize the travel expense up to \$5000 and then would explain to the Town Council at the next meeting.

B. COORDINATION AND PROPOSED RESPONSES TO LETTERS TO MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL OR LETTERS TO INDIVIDUAL TOWN COUNCIL MEMBERS OR THE MAYOR: Mr. Doney explained the present procedure is his office would prepare letters of response to inquiries received, or have the Department Head prepare a letter for the Mayor or Council President to sign. After consideration, the Town Council instructed the Town Manager to continue on with the present procedure which is working quite well.

Responses to
letters to
Mayor and
Town Council

C. TOWN COUNCIL MEETING AGENDAS AND BACK-UP: Mr. Doney recalled Mrs. Wiener has touched on this indicating it was her wish to have items listed on the agenda, if at all possible. He advised the President of the Town Council does approve the agendas for all meetings and he thought it would be helpful to have these items considered under New Business - Other. He explained there will still be some items that come in at the last minute which may have to be considered under Any Other Matters. (Mrs. Smith left the meeting at 11:57 AM).

Town Council
Meeting
Agendas and
Back-up

VI. ANY OTHER MATTERS:

A. CALENDARS: Mr. Doney urged the Mayor, the Town Council, staff members and the Town Attorney to bring their calendars to all Town Council meetings, in the event special meetings need to be scheduled.

Calendars

B. MICROPHONES: Mr. Doney asked each member to not get too close to the microphones and also to not touch the microphones themselves as it shorts out the system. He will put information on how to use the microphones on the base as there are many other Boards and Commissions who use the system.

Microphones

C. Mr. Randolph noted he will send the case history on the Snyder, etc. to the other commissions to which the Council agreed.

D. REMINDER OF UPCOMING MEETING: Mr. Doney reminded all of the upcoming Ordinance, Rules & Standards Committee Meeting on Thursday, March 3, 1994 at 2 PM. Mrs. Wiener pointed out she was not in agreement that every member of the Town Council should be attending the Committee meetings, but everyone could do as they wished.

VII. ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:04 PM.

Adjournment

Grace T. Peters
Town Clerk