TOWN OF PALM BEACH

Office of The Town Clerk

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON JANUARY 15, 2008

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The Regular Town Council Meeting was called to order on Tuesday, January 15, 2008, at 9:30 a.m., in the Town Council Chamber. On roll call, the following elected officials were found to be present:

Mayor Jack McDonald
President Richard M. Kleid
President Pro Tem Denis P. Coleman
Council Member William J. Brooks
Council Member Gail Coniglio
Council Member Susan Markin

Others present for all or a portion of the meeting were:

Town Manager Peter B. Elwell
Deputy Town Manager Thomas G. Bradford
Assistant Town Manager Sarah E. Hannah
Town Attorney John C. Randolph
William Amador - Fire-Rescue Chief
Jay Boodheshwar - Recreation Director
James Bowser - Town Engineer
Paul Brazil - Public Works Director
Alan Brown - Assistant Director of Recreation
Eric Brown - Public Works Assistant Director
Veronica Close - Assistant Planning, Zoning and Building Director
Paul Castro - Zoning Administrator
William Crouse - Human Resources Director
Tim Frank - Planning Administrator
Fred Hess - Police Sergeant
Charles Langley - Public Works Assistant Director
Jon Luscomb - Dock Master

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John Page - Planning, Zoning, and Building Director
Michael Reiter - Police Chief
Jane Struder - Finance Director
Spencer Wilson - Information Systems Manager
Susan Eichhorn - Town Clerk

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Town Clerk Eichhorn gave the invocation. President Kleid led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion made by Council Member Brooks, seconded by Council Member Coniglio to approve the Agenda. On roll call, the motion carried unanimously.

IV. Consideration of Scheduling an Attorney/Client Session Regarding Town of Palm Beach vs Trina Lane, Case No. 50 2007 CA 006102 XXXX MB AD, Fifteenth Judicial Circuit Court, Palm Beach County, Florida to Discuss This Matter Immediately Following this Special Town Council Meeting in the Town Council Chambers, 360 South County Road, Palm Beach, Florida. Attorney/Client Session Attendees: Mayor Jack McDonald, Town Council President Richard M. Kleid, Town Council President Pro Tem Denis P. Coleman, Town Council Members William J. Brooks, Gail Coniglio, and Susan Markin, Town Attorney John C. Randolph, Town Manager Peter B. Elwell, and Ley and Marsaa, Court Reporters. [John C. Randolph, Town Attorney]

Town Attorney Randolph requested the advice of the Mayor and Town Council regarding Town of Palm Beach vs Trina Lane, Case No. 50 2007 CA 006102 XXXX MB AD, in an Attorney/Client Session to be scheduled immediately upon the conclusion of the Special Town Council Meeting.

Motion made by Council Member Brooks, seconded by Council Member Marking to approve the scheduling of an Attorney/Client Session regarding Town of Palm Beach vs Trini Lane, at the conclusion of the Special Town Council Meeting. On roll call, the motion carried unanimously.

V. MODIFIED SUBDIVISION #1-2007, 545 & 561 No. Lake Trail and 549 No. Lake Way; The application of Paul L. Maddock, Jr. and the Estate of Paul L. Maddock; relative to property described as lengthy legal description on file (proposed "Landmark Estates" Plat, Lots 1-6); commonly known as 545 & 561 North Lake Trail and 549 North Lake Way; located in the R-B Zoning District. The applicant requests a modification of a condition of approval for the subdivision which required the swimming pool on Lot 5 to be removed prior to filing the plat. Applicant wants to maintain the pool for two years or sale of the lot, whichever occurs sooner. Also, request modification of a condition of approval for the subdivision which required the "Tea House/Song House" on Lot 4 to be removed prior to filing the plat. Applicant wants to maintain the "Tea House/Song House" for two years or sale of the lot, whichever occurs sooner. *Deferred from the December 11, 2007, Town Council Meeting.*

Attorney Peter Broberg, on behalf of the applicant, addressed the Town Council, providing information related to the property in question. He noted that the Town Council had approved the subdivision of the property in April 2007, with a list of items that must be accomplished prior to recording the plat. After reviewing those items, the applicant would like to amend the approval with the following conditions:

- Pool that was proposed to be demolished before recording the plat.
- Small building to be demolished before recording the plat.

Attorney Broberg proposed that the pool and small building, known as "Song House," be allowed for two years from the recording of plat, or such time as the lot was sold, whichever was sooner.

Zoning Administrator Paul Castro recommended restrictive covenants on both separate lots, and some sort of sub-surface or parking area off of the cul-de-sac once the roads were in so that the person staying in Song House had a place to park.

Motion made by Council Member Brooks to approve the request of the petitioner to allow the pool and "Song House" to remain for two years from the recording of the plat, or such time as the lot was sold, whichever was sooner, with the conditions as set forth by staff. The motion was seconded by Council Member Coniglio. On roll call, the motion carried unanimously.

VI. WORKSHOP: COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF TOWN OPERATIONS.

A. Overview

President Kleid announced that staff would make a series of presentations, and it was not expected that the Town Council would make specific decisions during this workshop. Decisions would be made at the three public meetings currently scheduled for February and March. The Mayor and Town Council would ask questions and provide direction to staff regarding any additional information or any new information that is needed on any particular topic. He encouraged the public to comment after hearing the overview provided by the Town Manager, however, requested that comments directed to a specific department be deferred until that department underwent discussion.

President Pro Tem Coleman requested that staff prepare a summary of overtime so that the discretionary overtime and mandatory overtime could be distinguished.

President Kleid requested a report on Town-owned automobiles that individuals were entitled to take home, and for what purpose those vehicles were used.

Council Member Brooks requested further information regarding positions that designated as being presently occupied in the cost savings options. He requested the years of service that each of those persons held, and an estimate on when their retirement age would be reached.

Public Comment:

Alec Flamm, 2000 South Ocean Blvd., commented regarding the importance of unique quality of life in Palm Beach, the importance of attracting and retaining high quality people to maintain that quality, and the property taxes.

Jack Cohen, 3450 South Ocean Blvd., commented that he would speak about three departments at the appropriate time.

John Cunningham encouraged reconsideration of some of the strategies that had been put into place over the past 5-10 years, and their cost effectiveness.

Jere Zenko, 232 Tangier Ave., commented regarding financially securing the Town for the future, having one spokesperson for all departments, costs for the annual report/calendar and the Medical Care Guide booklet, and the cost options for reductions in staff.

Bill Guttman, 216 West Indies Dr., commented regarding emails from the Citizens United For Sensible Planning (CUSP).

Madelyn Greenberg, 3360 South Ocean Blvd., commented regarding the dedication of the Mayor and the Town Council, and the quality of life expected in Palm Beach.

Wendy Victor, 208 Via Tortuga commented regarding the generosity of the community as a resource.

Allan Miller, El Bravo Way, commented regarding the consistent level of protection and service provided by the Police and Fire Departments.

Isabelle Furlaud, 745 Hi Mount Rd., commented regarding the quality of life and the beauty of the Town kept up by the Department of Public Works.

Bill Diamond, 220 Wells Rd., commented regarding reduction of services injuring the property values.

John Cunningham, 353 El Brillo Way, commented regarding the cost effectiveness of some of the strategies that had been put into place over the past 5-10 years, the vesting of Fire-Rescue personnel, and suggested a review of the risk/danger structure of the positions. He urged that a hard look be taken at the budget costs.

Alvin Barban(ph), 3120 South Ocean Blvd., commented regarding the quality of life in Palm Beach.

Eileen Curran, 3170 South Ocean Blvd., commented regarding the shore protection project was still unfinished and additional funds were now required. Leadership will be required to renourish the beaches at Reach 8 and to finish the shore protection project.

Council Member Coniglio thanked everyone for participating in the dialogue, and commented regarding a personal experience that had led her to having the Police and Fire Departments as the reasons why she stayed in Palm Beach with her family. She stated that she would not sacrifice the things that made Palm Beach important to her.

President Pro Tem Coleman commented regarding the counter-productivity of misinformation.

B. Town Manager's Office

Town Manager Elwell provided an overview of the operations of the Town Manager's office. He reported on the various programs of cost savings measures. The Town Council requested that a list of both federal and state mandates and the year of introduction of each to be provided.

Public Comments:

Jere Zenko commented on the Emergency Operations Center Coordinator position, the Assistant Town Manager position, the Medical Care Guide, and the Annual Report and Calendar.

Alec Flamm commented on the Assistant Town Manager position.

Michael Ainslie, 415 Seaspray Avenue, commented regarding printing of annual reports, and insurance.

The Town Council concurred on the following list of options for cost savings that would either be retained or require further discussion:

1. **Issue of RFP to lease the Peruvian Avenue employee parking lot:** Further discussion required

2. **Eliminate or reduce funding for PB Cats, Inc.:**Further discussion required.

3. **Eliminate or reduce funding for holiday tree lightings and Fourth of July Celebration:** Required further discussion.

4. **Eliminate Annual Report, RequestPartner, some or all Townwide mailings:** To be discussed as one item, paperless, and required further discussion.

5. **Eliminate budgeted amount for telecom attorney:** Required further discussion; staff was directed to bring back information on how many times the Town used the attorney and for what purpose.

C. Information Systems

Information Systems Manager Spencer Wilson provided an overview of the operations of the Information Systems department. The Town Council concurred on the following list of options for cost savings that would either be retained or require further discussion::

1. **Reduce or eliminate desktop printers:** Reduce instead of eliminate, and evaluate the need on an individual basis.

D. Finance/Clerk

Finance Director Jane Struder provided an overview of the of the options for revenue enhancement and cost savings. The Town Council concurred on the following list of options for cost savings that would either be retained, or require further discussion:

1. **Increase Charitable Solicitation Permit fee from $230 to $460 for permits over $10,000, and from $25 to $50 for permits under $10,000, for an increase of approximately $27,000:** Retained, and should become a formalized process to be reviewed each year at budget time.

2. **Change the minutes from the current detailed minutes to action only minutes or brief summary minutes:** Brief summary minutes. Every commission and board in the Town would also prepare brief summary minutes.

3. **Activation of an automated telephone attendant:** Further discussion required. The operator will track the amount and type of calls received.

4. **Elimination and partial elimination of the warehouse:** Further discussion required. Staff was requested to submit the difference of the square footage space of the warehouse from where it was before items were purged to what currently exists, and what general categories of items were needed in the warehouse versus items not needed.

Public Comment:

Jere Zenko commented regarding the automated telephone attendant.

William Diamond, 220 Wells, commented regarding the automated telephone attendant and the operations of warehouses.

E. Planning, Zoning, and Building

Planning, Zoning, and Building Director John Page provided an overview of the options for revenue enhancement and cost savings. The Town Council concurred on the following list of

options for cost savings that would either be retained, or required further discussion:

1. **File land development applications electronically:** Retained.

2. **Allow more administrative reviews of architecture:** Further discussion required.

3. **Create a pool of services composed of support staff:** Staff was requested to prepare a proposal of how to accelerate the implementation of a clerical pool.

4. **Simplify the content of minutes, and incorporate digitized recordings:** Retained.

5. **Allow the Submission of Business Tax Receipts applications and payments on line:** Retained.

6. **Require notice to properties within 250' and require applicants to prepare notice:** Continue to advertise and add the requirement that the Town would notify the neighbors by mail.

F. Fire-Rescue

Fire-Rescue Chief William Amador provided an overview of the options for revenue enhancement and cost savings. The Town Council concurred on the following list of options for cost savings that would either be retained, or require further discussion:

1. **Increase in Fire Prevention Fees:** Retained.

2. **Increase in EMS Transport Fees:** Retained.

3. **Take advantage of new rule that would allow billing for motor vehicle accidents with non-transport:** Retained.

4. **Increase Special Detail fees:** Retained.

7. **Create a Part-Time Fire Mechanic Assistant Position in Lieu of Overtime:** Retained.

Public Comment:

Madelyn Greenberg commented favorably on the Public Education program and the EMS Transport.

G. Police

Police Chief Michael Reiter provided an overview of the operations of the Police Department. The Town Council concurred on the following list of options for cost savings that would either be retained, or require further discussion:

1. **Charge for bus permits:** Further discussion required.

2. **Change patrol vehicle replacement schedule from three yeas to four years:** Retained.

3. **Reduce detective vehicles by two:** Retained.

4. **Change Parking Control fleet to fuel efficient vehicles:** Retained.

5. **Reduce Parking Control fleet by one vehicle:** Retained.

Mr. Elwell noted that Information Systems would accelerate automation of programs in any way possible.

Public Comment:

Robert Friedman, 2500 S. Ocean Blvd., read a statement regarding the professionalism of the Police Department, and commented favorably on the cost saving plans.

Mrs. Christlieb, 200 Everglade Avenue, commented favorably on the Comprehensive Report of Town Operations by all the departments and the safety of the Town of Palm Beach because of the Police Department.

Madelyn Greenberg commented favorably regarding the safety in the Town as a result of the Police Department.

Tim Moran, 257 Dunbar Road, commented favorably on the Police Department.

H. Recreation

Town Manager Elwell noted that the Enterprise Fund was included in the Recreation Department's report, and was separate from the General Fund. Any savings identified would accrue to the balance in the Fund. As there were no tax dollars devoted to the operations, there would not be any tax savings with any reductions for this Department.

Recreation Director Jay Boodeschwar provided a comparison regarding the Department's efficiencies and expenditures for the current fiscal year and past fiscal years. The Town Council concurred on the following list of options for cost savings that would either be retained, or require further discussion:

1. **Invest in an alternative water source for irrigation:** Retained.

Public Comment:

Stuart Schulman, 2280 S. Ocean Blvd., commented on the management of the golf course.

VII. ANY OTHER MATTERS

There were none.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further discussion, the Special Town Council meeting of January 15, 2008, was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

APPROVED:

Richard M. Kleid
Town Council President

ATTEST:

Susan A. Eichhorn
Town Clerk

01/29/2010