



TOWN OF PALM BEACH

Office of The Town Clerk

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6, 2011

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The Special Town Council Meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, April 6, 2011, in the Town Council Chambers. On roll call, all of the elected officials were found to be present.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council President Rosow led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion to approve the Agenda was made by Council Member Diamond, seconded by Council Member Kleid. On roll call, the motion carried unanimously.

IV. 2011 LONG TERM FINANCIAL PLAN [Peter B. Elwell, Town Manager and Jane Struder, Director of Finance]

Town Manager Elwell presented the Town of Palm Beach Long Term Financial Plan for Fiscal Years 2011-2021, which consisted of the following:

- Status of the Fiscal Year 2010-2011 Budget
- Reserve Status
- General Fund Revenue Trend Analysis
- General Fund Expenditure Trend Analysis
- General Fund Forecast Summary
- Recreation Enterprise Fund Trend Analysis
- Recreation Enterprise Fund Forecast Summary

Council President Pro Tem Wildrick stated that he felt the Town should not focus solely on the millage rate, but rather on what we need to do the job properly, the millage rate is just a byproduct. [17:00-18:30]

1 Council President Pro Tem Wildrick stated that we have been very good with regards to the way
2 we've issued our bonds, and challenged Town Manager Elwell to continue to watch and be strict
3 with bonds as we have done to date. [53:00-54:30]
4

5 Council Member Bill Diamond raised his concerns regarding projections for the coastal fund.
6 As the projections are based on things that are beyond the control of the Town, he feels that it is
7 dangerous to increase the millage without knowing what is required and whether the projects will
8 be done. He stated that he would rather go year by year and not put a penny into coastal unless
9 we know that it is absolutely necessary. Why pay in advance for something you may never have
10 to pay for, or not be allowed to pay for? [1:06:00-1:08:30]
11

12 Mayor Coniglio stated that by not putting additional revenue aside every year to prepare for the
13 project, the taxes for the particular year the project occurs will be substantially more. [1:07:00-
14 1:08:30]
15

16 Council President Rosow stated that he has already asked that the Taxation and Finance
17 Committee (TFC) come up with a plan to finance the coastal program. The committee will sit
18 down and talk to experts to determine the best way to finance the coastal plan. First we have to
19 get a plan, and then we as a body have to agree on what should be done. [1:08:00-1:09:30]
20

21 Council President Pro Tem Wildrick reiterated his belief that the Town should focus on what
22 they want and what it costs, not the millage, and that the best way to operate is from zero-based
23 budgeting. [1:14:30-1:16:00]
24

25 Council President Pro Tem Wildrick stated that the Town has done a good job of controlling
26 expenditures, but now we need to start looking at the revenue end. One of the largest non-ad
27 valorem sources of revenue is building permits. We have heard in the past that some individuals
28 have been discouraged with the Architectural Commission (ARCOM). We have to help
29 encourage people to get the job done in the right manner. He encouraged ARCOM to keep
30 maintaining the standards of the Town, but to also work with people to get this piece of our
31 income going. Council President Pro Tem Wildrick also commented on the successful
32 development of Worth Avenue and stated that we need to look at enhancing other areas of the
33 town, such as the Royal Poinciana Corridor. [1:16:00-1:21:00]
34

35 Council Member Kleid stated that the Shore Protection Board is putting together a plan and will
36 be making recommendations to the Town Council. This information will be important as we go
37 into the fiscal year 2012 budget process in June, where we will have to decide if we want to pay
38 as we go, pay into the fund each year, or a hybrid of the two. We are also waiting to hear from
39 the TFC to see if they have any suggestions. [1:21:00-1:22:30]
40

41 In regards to the coastal program, Town Manager Elwell stated that we can go year-by-year, but
42 he strongly recommends that a plan and funding for the coastal program be put into the long-
43 term plan now. The Council will then need to make a decision on whether to continue on a year-
44 by-year, as needed, or a when permits have been issued basis, or if they want to proceed on a
45 more level basis, like a savings account, where funds will only get expended when we're ready
46 to do a project. [1:23:00-1:26:30]

1 Council Member Diamond agreed that the beaches have to be maintained. He asked that when
2 the TFC reviews how to fund the coastal program that they make sure that their projections are
3 realistic, and not based on permits that may never be granted or ideas that may be impractical.
4 [1:26:30-1:27:30]
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6 Mayor Coniglio asked Town Manager Elwell if any funds could be spent out of the coastal fund
7 without Council approval. Town Manager Elwell replied that they could, but only in increments
8 of \$100,000 or less. On any large-scale meaningful project, Council will always make the
9 decision of what gets spent and what does not. [1:28:30-1:30:00]
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11 Council Member Kleid commented that one of the things that the Council may want to consider
12 in terms of building revenues is adding facilities to the marina, especially for mega yachts.

13 Council Member Wildrick commented that before considering adding facilities to the marina,
14 that the Town needs to do a complete market study. [1:34:00-1:40:00]
15

16 Council President Rosow suggested using Living Social and Groupon to promote the Town golf
17 course. [1:41:00-1:42:00]
18

19 Council President Rosow commented that the tennis facilities do not make a profit and that it
20 would be cheaper to give them away. Mayor Coniglio expressed her opposition to this. She
21 commented that tennis is part of the fabric of this community. Council Member Kleid stated his
22 support of the Mayor's position. [1:42:30-1:47:30]
23

24 Council President Rosow questioned if we should determine upfront where excess funds in a
25 department will go. He also stated that the Town needs to take a look at utility taxes. He feels
26 that they are a hidden tax, and the Town needs to figure out a way to do without them.
27 Outsourcing is also important to look at. [2:10:00-2:13:30]
28

29 Council President Rosow announced that he is working with Town Manager Elwell to compile a
30 list of functions of the Town to determine what is important to our residents' quality of life. He
31 asked each of the Council Members to talk to the residents and do an analysis of what we believe
32 is important so that the Council can provide guidance to staff as to how the Town should move
33 forward and what levels of service it should provide. We need to know what our standards are
34 so that we know where to put our fragile dollars. [2:15:30-2:17:30]
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36 V. ANY OTHER MATTERS

37 There were none.
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3 XIV. ADJOURNMENT

4 There being no further business, the April 6, 2011 Special Town Council meeting was adjourned
5 at 11:49 a.m.

6 APPROVED:

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11 David A. Rosow
12 Town Council President

13
14 ATTEST:

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18 Susan A. Owens, MMC
19 Town Clerk
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