



TOWN OF PALM BEACH

Minutes of the Special Town Council Meeting
Held on December 19, 2024

I. **CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

The Town Council meeting was called to order on December 19, 2024, at 10:46 a.m. On roll call, all elected officials were found to be present.

II. **INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Acting Town Clerk Churney gave the invocation. Council President Lindsay led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

A motion was made by Council Member Cooney and seconded by Council Member Araskog to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was carried unanimously, 5-0.

IV. **COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITIZENS - 3-MINUTE LIMIT, PLEASE**

No one indicated a desire to speak.

V. **DISCUSSION REGARDING REQUEST TO THE FLORIDA DEPT. OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND THE U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS TO INSTALL A SEAWEED BARRIER FROM SOUTHPAW TRUST REGARDING 1480 NORTH LAKE WAY**

A. Notification to Property Owners

Paul Brazil, Director of Public Works, explained the three portions of the application with the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP): the sovereign submerged land lease and the Army Corps permit. Mr. Brazil stated that the public comment portion for the Army Corps permit had closed, but the public comment portion for the sovereign submerged land lease was still open. Mr. Brazil affirmed that comments could still be sent to the Army Corps.

Council President Lindsay provided an email address for public comment to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection. Mr. Brazil stated he would provide the town manager's office with the contact information for public comment for each portion of the project with the state. Council Member Araskog asked Mr. Brazil to

provide the contact information for the Army Corps as well.

Maura Ziska, the attorney for Mr. and Mrs. Stallone, presented a map of the proposal and introduced her clients and the project engineer.

Sylvester Stallone, owner of 1480 N. Lake Way, discussed the reasons for his proposal, which included protecting sea life, cleaning up the water, and preventing disruptions to his property. He also spoke about his intentions to take action on derelict boats.

Matt Butler of Isiminger and Stubbs described the proposed barrier for the property, provided two photos of a similar installation, and discussed maintaining it.

Council President Lindsay called for public comment.

Public comment of those who spoke against the proposed barrier:

Susan Gary, 229 Onondaga Avenue

General Ron Silverman, 1440 N. Ocean Way

Jane Lindsay Scott, 210 Manana Lane

Minnie Pulitzer, 253 Esplanade Way

Peter McKelvy, 1295 N. Lake Way

Joel Scott, 210 Manana Lane

Dragana Connaughton, 267 Merrain Road

Mayor Moore asked Mr. Brazil if the state regulatory agency would approve the application. Mr. Brazil stated he thought the application for the submerged land lease was reasonable; however, he thought the application with the Army Corps and DEP would be challenging. Mayor Moore thought it would be a bad precedent for the Town to support the application; however, she would follow the lead of the Council.

Council Member Moran did not believe it was a good look for the Town. She thought there was a more appropriate and less offensive way to address the applicant's issues.

Council Member Cooney thought it was incumbent on the Town Council to send a letter opposing the request. He was also concerned that the proposal would set a precedent.

Council Member Araskog was concerned about safety and the precedent the proposal would set in the Town if granted. While difficult, she stated she could not support the request. She thought the Town should write letters to the DEP and the Army Corps to oppose the project, especially since she believed many residents did not receive notice.

Mr. Stallone stated he respected all the opinions. He stated he would direct his focus on the future efforts from Riveria Beach.

Council President Lindsay thanked Mr. Stallone for his comments but stated the Town must object to the application. She understood and empathized with his comments on sea life, derelict boats, and human waste affecting the water.

Council President Lindsay invited Mr. Stallone to work on all the water issues with the Council.

Attorney Ziska stated that the Stallones would be withdrawing their application.

Council President Lindsay acknowledged that the application would be withdrawn; however, she stated that the Town Council would still write a letter to the Army Corps stating that the Town would not like to pursue any future applications of a similar nature. Council President Lindsay asked the Public Works Department to draft a letter to be sent.

A motion was made by Council Member Araskog and seconded by Council Member Cooney that letters be sent to the Army Corps and The Florida Department of Environmental Protection on behalf of the Mayor, Town Council, and the Public Works Department, acknowledging the withdrawal of the application for Southpaw Trust Regarding 1480 N Lake Way, objecting to any future applications similar in nature that utilizes a similar barrier, and to request the Mayor, Town Council and residents receive timely notice to allow for public comment. The motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

VI. ANY OTHER MATTERS

There were no other matters discussed at this time.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Council Member Cooney and seconded by Council Member Moran to adjourn the meeting at 11:42 a.m. The motion was carried unanimously, 5-0.

APPROVED:

Bobbie D. Lindsay, Town Council President

ATTEST:

Kelly Churney, Acting Town Clerk
Date: _____