



TOWN OF PALM BEACH

Town Clerk's Office

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 2020

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The Special Town Council Meeting was called to order on Thursday, March 19, 2020 at 11:00 a.m. in the Town Council Chambers. On roll call, all elected officials were found to be present EXCEPT Mayor Gail Coniglio.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council President Danielle Moore led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was amended to include the addition of the following items:

Item No. IV. COMMENTS OF MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL

Item No. V. TOWN MANAGER'S SITUATION UPDATE

Motion was made by Council President Pro Tem Zeidman and was seconded by Council Member Araskog to approve the Agenda as amended. On roll call, the Motion passed unanimously.

Clerk's Note: The Mayor arrived at this time

IV. COMMENTS OF MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL

Mayor Coniglio thanked the Town's Public Safety department for being proactive and prepared for the Coronavirus situation and protecting the Town and its residents. She also expressed her concern for the upcoming COVID-19 epidemic and expressed that the

Town and its neighboring municipalities should have across the board measures in place so that the Town remains safe. She cautioned all to be prepared and stay safe.

Council President Pro Tem Zeidman thanked the Mayor for her communications with other municipalities and spoke regarding the precautions residents need to take to keep themselves and each other safe. She spoke regarding predictions by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and adhering to their guidelines.

Council Member Araskog echoed President Pro Tem Zeidman's comments and spoke about self-isolation. She commented that young people should also take precautions regarding the coronavirus adhere to the social distancing guidelines. She spoke regarding the hotels in Town and applauded Paul Leone for closing the Breakers Hotel.

Council Member Lindsay commended the Staff, Ms. Zeidman and the Mayor on their efforts regarding the coronavirus situation. She spoke regarding actions to be taken during this time.

Council Member Crampton expressed that he did not support the Town being the only municipality to announce a shelter in place idea and commented that designation should come from a higher authority. He commented that this designation should be in place for a set amount of time with specific criteria.

V. TOWN MANAGER'S SITUATION REPORT

Town Manager Blouin gave an update regarding the coronavirus epidemic. He stated that the reported statistics were unintentionally incorrect due to some persons not showing any symptoms and insufficient test kits being available. He reported the number of test kits being sent to Florida and commented that after tests were done the numbers of infected cases would increase. He stressed the need for self-isolation and explained the quarantine measures that may have to be taken. He explained the actions being taken by both the Fire Rescue and Police Depts. to be prepared to handle these cases. He stated that if necessary Fire Rescue, Police and Sanitation would be operating normally while other divisions of Government may have to operate remotely. He encouraged residents to send questions to questions@townofpalmbeach.com and stated that there will be a briefing at 3:00 PM each day to give the residents a status update.

Council President Moore offered her support and thanks to the Town Manager and staff.

Council Member Lindsay read into the record a letter from a Doctor in Seattle, WA regarding the dramatic change for the worse in that City due to the coronavirus situation.

Council Member Crampton expressed his appreciation for the Town Manager and his efforts in keeping us safe. He expressed his pleasure that the Resolution will have an ending date.

Responding to Council Member Araskog, Town Manager Blouin expressed that he

applauded the actions of Paul Leone in closing the Breakers Hotel. He mentioned that one hotel operator who was unhappy with having to close his establishment.

Council President Zeidman thanked the council members for their support, and referred residents to the Town's website for more information. She also expressed her support to the Town Manager and staff for the actions being taken in preparation for the rise in cases of the Coronavirus disease.

VI. COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITIZENS - None

VII. RESOLUTION NO. 21-2020 A Resolution of the Town Council of the Town of Palm Beach, Palm Beach County, Florida, Concurring With The Request of The Town's Chief of Police, To Extend The Seventy-Two (72) Hour Time Limit Relating To The Chief's Declaration of The Existence of A State Of Emergency Within The Corporate Limits of The Town To A Period Of Time Deemed Appropriate By The Chief of Police For The Declaration of Public Emergency To Be Terminated; Providing For An Effective Date.

Town Manager Blouin explained the policies and procedures regarding the State of Emergency. Discussion ensued regarding the limits of the State of Emergency. After much discussion it was decided that the wording of the Resolution should be amended as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. 21-2020 A Resolution Of The Town Council Of The Town Of Palm Beach, Palm Beach County, Florida Concurring With The Request Of The Town's Chief Of Police, To Extend The Seventy-Two (72) Hour Time Limit Relating To The Chief's Declaration Of The Existence Of A State Of Emergency Within The Corporate Limits Of The Town To May 12, 2020, Unless Earlier Terminated By The Chief Of Police, At Which Time The Town Council Will Address The Need For Any Extension Of The Declaration Of Emergency; Providing For An Effective Date.

Town Council President Moore read amended Resolution No. 21-2020 by title.

Motion was made by Council Member Lindsay and was seconded by Council President Pro Tem Zeidman to approve Resolution No. 21-2020 as amended. On roll call the Motion passed unanimously.

VIII. EMERGENCY ORDINANCE NO. 08-2020 An Emergency Ordinance of The Town Council of The Town of Palm Beach, Palm Beach County, Florida, Extending By A Period of Thirty (30) Days Deadlines For The Town Council And Its Boards And Commissions To Act Upon Applications Submitted To The Council And Its Boards And Commissions Based Upon The Declaration of An Emergency Related To The Coronavirus And The Consequent Cancellation of Meetings; Providing For Severability; Providing For Repeal of Ordinances In Conflict; Providing An Effective Date.

Town Council President Moore read Emergency Ordinance No. 08-2020 by title.

Motion was made by Council Member Araskog and was seconded by Council

President Pro Tem Zeidman to adopt Emergency Ordinance No. 08-2020. On roll call the Motion passed unanimously.

IX. ANY OTHER MATTERS - *None*

X. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Special Town Council Meeting of March 19, 2020, was adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Danielle H. Moore, Town Council President

ATTEST:

Patricia Gayle-Gordon, Acting Town Clerk

Date