



TOWN OF PALM BEACH

Minutes of the Development Review

Town Council Meeting

Held on November 9, 2022

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The Development Review Town Council Meeting was called to order November 9, 2022, at 9:30 a.m. via Zoom.

II. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Deputy Town Clerk Churney gave the invocation. Council President Council President Zeidman led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council President Zeidman stated that after the Town Council made the decision to hold the Town Council Development Review meeting via Zoom, she received emails objecting to the decision. Two of these emails came from attorneys who were representing parties on two of the projects; both questioned their due process of holding the meeting on Zoom. She further explained that it was likely that there was a perception that the meeting would be canceled due to the mandatory evacuation of the island. After consulting with Town Attorney Randolph, she indicated that he recommended the meeting be postponed and moved to a future date, where proper notice could be provided to all interested parties.

Further, Council President Zeidman acknowledged that while it was a prudent decision to move the meeting to a future date, she believed the Town Council could hear the Code Review Update item by Sean Suder and other consultants. She explained since the meeting would be recorded, the Town Council could move forward and listen to the presentation, and other interested parties could review the recorded meeting after the presentation is concluded. She added that there would be many upcoming opportunities for the public to weigh in on the issues at hand.

Town Attorney Randolph indicated that the Town Council could hear the Code Review Update since it was informational, and no actions would be taken on the item. However, he advised against hearing other matters where decisions would be made.

Many of the Town Council members expressed their concern on hearing the Code Review Update since the material was challenging and complicated. They thought it would be best to hold the update in person, with the opportunity for the community to be present and participating.

Council President Zeidman understood the Council's concerns. She agreed to postpone the Code Review Update and stated the Town Council needed to decide on a future meeting date.

After a lengthy discussion regarding possible meeting dates and times, the Town Council decided to move their Development Review meeting to Tuesday, November 15, 2022 at 3:00 p.m. Council President Zeidman asked Sean Suder and other consultants to put together a list of dates and times that they could present the Code Review Update to the Town Council.

Wayne Bergman, Director of Planning, Zoning and Building, discussed the immediate issue of demolitions in the Town. He explained that his department had not issued any demolition permits for the week due to the impending storm. He further explained the issue of contractors trying to complete a demolition before the Monday prior to the Thanksgiving holiday, which is outlined in the Code. He indicated that one remaining week was insufficient for the demolitions to be completed on the permits that were in process. Mr. Bergman requested a few extra days for demolition, either the first few days during the week of Thanksgiving, or the week following Thanksgiving.

Council Member Araskog cautioned against making this decision without the public's input. She was opposed to allowing demolition during the week of Thanksgiving. Council Member Araskog also inquired about the last-minute applications for demolition.

Mr. Bergman stated that contractors were allowed to demolish homes until the Monday prior to Thanksgiving. He explained the steps that would need to occur prior to a demolition and believed that with the loss of days due to the storm, it would not allow enough time for the demolitions.

Council Member Lindsay agreed that demolitions should not be permitted during the week of Thanksgiving. She also suggested the hours to be shifted from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on the week following Thanksgiving.

At the request of Council Member Lindsay, Mr. Bergman clarified that he was requesting extended time for demolition permits that had already been submitted to Planning and Zoning; this did not include any new permits.

Council Member Lindsay thought that the Town should accommodate those who had already submitted permits for demolition. Her suggestion was to allow demolition during the week following Thanksgiving, with limited hours beginning at 9:00 a.m. and ending by 5:00 p.m.

Council Member Crampton agreed with Ms. Lindsay and believed the Town Council could make the decision without the public comment since the applications for permit had already been submitted. Council Member Cooney and Mayor Moore agreed with this assessment as well.

Council Member Araskog agreed with Ms. Lindsay. She suggested looking at a demolition permit application deadline to alleviate this issue in the future.

Council President Zeidman agreed to allow the extra time for demolition, which would be the

week following Thanksgiving, with the constricted hours of 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Town Attorney Randolph asked the Town Council to make a motion to formally move the meeting to another date.

Motion made by Council Member Araskog and seconded by Council Member Crampton to cancel the Town Council Development Review Meeting, scheduled for November 9, 2022, and to reschedule the meeting to Tuesday, November 15, 2022 to begin at 3:00 p.m. Motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

III. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:03 a.m. on November 9, 2022 without the benefit of a roll call.

APPROVED:

Margaret A. Zeidman, Town Council President

ATTEST:

Kelly Churney, Deputy Town Clerk
Date: _____