

**TOWN OF LAUDERDALE-BY-THE-SEA
TOWN COMMISSION
SPECIAL WORKSHOP MINUTES
Jarvis Hall
4505 Ocean Drive
Tuesday, October 27, 2015
5:00 PM**

1. CALL TO ORDER, MAYOR SCOT SASSER

Mayor Scot Sasser called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. Also present were Vice Mayor Chris Vincent, Commissioner Mark Brown, Commissioner Stuart Dodd, Commissioner Elliot Sokolow, Town Manager Connie Hoffmann, Assistant Town Manager Bud Bentley, Town Attorney Susan L. Trevarthen, Public Information Officer Steve d'Oliveira, and Town Clerk Tedra Smith.

2. DISCUSSION ITEM

a. FY2016 Work Plan Priorities (Connie Hoffmann, Town Manager)

Town Manager Connie Hoffmann requested that each Commissioner state his personal priorities, referring to the list included in the backup materials. This would allow items not included on the list to be added as necessary.

Commissioner Brown advised that because the Town has engaged in multiple construction projects for the last four years, he felt that 2016 should include only completion of the public restroom project, in addition to routine maintenance. This would provide residents with a year of peace and quiet before construction of the El Mar Greenway project begins in 2017. He added that he would also like to see the Town's noise ordinance revisited in 2016, as well as the topic of vacation rental properties.

Mayor Sasser noted that the city of Fort Lauderdale has recently made changes to its vacation rental policy as allowed by the State; however, he cautioned that he was under the impression that making similar changes in the Town might cause the loss of the Town's grandfathered status. Town Attorney Susan Trevarthen advised that she could provide an analysis of Fort Lauderdale's recent changes as well as the possibilities open to the Town.

Commissioner Dodd cautioned against further action regarding the noise ordinance, as he felt this could create additional administrative work. He expressed concern regarding sober houses and the possibility that these properties could proliferate in certain locations, possibly taking up the majority of some residential streets.

Mayor Sasser stated that one of his goals for fiscal year (FY) 2016 was to consider the Town's long-term strategy for various properties, such as the Town Hall and the Public Safety complex. He suggested that this could include bringing back the Town's Master Plan Steering Committee.

Town Manager Hoffmann observed that the Town's vacation rental ordinance currently requires licensing only for single-family homes and town homes; however, some duplexes and triplexes are being used as vacation rentals. She suggested expanding the types of units regulated by this Ordinance.

Commissioner Brown further clarified his earlier proposal of a moratorium on major construction projects, stating that outside the public restroom project, he would recommend not shutting down major intersections or roadways. Town Manager Hoffmann noted that there is a budget for street resurfacing work in FY16.

Vice Mayor Vincent felt that another priority for FY 2016 should be the acquisition of property for surface parking. He also would like to restructure the Town's fee schedule for certain Code violations in order to remove what he felt were inordinate burdens on property or business owners, or to cap certain fees, such as renewal of business tax receipts (BTRs).

Commissioner Brown pointed out that there is the potential to satisfy the Town's parking needs at present through acquisition of a property currently under consideration, which should remove consideration of a parking garage for the next ten years, stating that if the Town does not approve the purchase, the parking issue would be uncertain and a study committee be appropriate. Mayor Sasser clarified that his suggestion of a committee is unrelated to parking, and emphasized the need for the Town to take steps to remain debt-free.

Commissioner Sokolow advised that while he felt the Town currently has sufficient parking, many residents and visitors do not share this sentiment. He proposed that the Town explore other parking alternatives, such as valet or shuttle service, as the character of the Town continues to change.

Town Attorney Trevarthen recalled that the Town's initial regulation of vacation rentals applied to all residential properties, but was later limited to apply only to town homes and single-family homes. She felt it would be possible to determine some type of regulation for the remaining types of residential properties without triggering State preemption of the law. Commissioner Dodd emphasized that any such changes should be enforceable.

Commissioner Brown returned to his earlier suggestion regarding the noise Ordinance, explaining that if the hours of enforcement were modified, it would not unduly affect

businesses that provide entertainment. He pointed out that the Town's businesses have received multiple incentives in recent years, and could be encouraged to come up with alternative means of entertainment other than live music. He proposed holding a meeting to invite Town businesses to share their feedback on acceptable forms of entertainment. Commissioner Sokolow cautioned against further tightening existing regulations, as nearby municipalities are becoming more competitive with Lauderdale-By-The-Sea.

Town Manager Hoffmann stated that while the Town has helped its businesses succeed in one area, it has been less successful going west on Commercial Boulevard for various reasons. She recommended that the Town develop strategies -create activities and reasons for individuals to visit this area- and agreed that merchants from west Commercial Boulevard could be consulted for their feedback on how this area can be improved.

Commissioner Dodd advised that he would like the Town to try less expensive artificial reef projects to attract divers and snorkelers, including seeking funds to counteract the amount of coral that could be damaged through the second phase of beach restoration.

The Commissioners further discussed the idea of a citizens' committee to assist with planning the Town's future. Commissioner Brown asked if there is sufficient need for a committee, or if issues can continue to be addressed at the Commission level. Vice Mayor Vincent noted that the Town's major hotels will play a large role in setting the tone of future development once they are complete. Mayor Sasser recalled that when the previous committee's work was complete, the Town acted upon many of their recommendations.

Town Manager Hoffmann noted that because the Master Plan has been implemented to a great degree, it may be time to do what the Mayor is suggesting. Over ten years have passed since that initial planning effort. She recommended that any such committee include representation by not only businesses and individual residents in a cross-section of the community, but Town Commissioners and Staff as well. She also noted that in addition to capital improvements, there may be quality of life efforts to be addressed. She noted that sustainability is an issue many other cities are addressing and some of our citizenry has an interest in that topic. Commissioner Sokolow emphasized the importance of business involvement in any such process. It was confirmed by consensus to proceed with a citizens' ad hoc committee to envision the Town's future for this purpose.

Commissioner Brown commented that the Town has received communications suggesting that a non-traditional entity provide the Invocation for Town meetings. Town Attorney Trevarthen advised that the Invocation program must be open to all parties or replaced with a moment of silence. Commissioner Brown and Mayor Sasser spoke in favor of accommodating the request to participate in the Invocation program.

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Commissioner Brown advised that Broward County will be creating signage to instruct tourists on appropriate actions near turtle nests. He had also asked for these signs to be produced as fliers and distributed to local hotels and businesses.

Commissioner Brown also advised that the Broward County Health Department provides various mobile health services within different municipalities in the community. He planned to follow up on this issue to determine if some of these services could be brought into Lauderdale-By-The-Sea so residents can access them.

Mayor Sasser noted that he often receives calls requesting covers or roofs for bus stop benches. There was also discussion of installing water fountains at Town portals. It was noted that maintenance would be an issue for both these potential installations.

Town Manager Hoffmann suggested that the Commissioners review their backup materials to identify any items on there that they do not see as priorities for the next year.

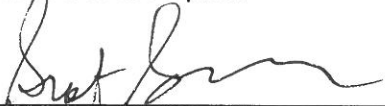
The Commissioners agreed that the following items should remain as priorities:

- Review of Town fines and fees to establish reasonable caps
- Determination of streets to be resurfaced
- Continued investment in new and existing reef projects
- Expand recycling in multi-family buildings
- Practical vacation rental Ordinance revisions
- Monitor legislative issues related to sober houses
- Signage for historical documentation of Midcentury Modern architecture
- Comprehensive Land Use Plan review
- Continued use of the nuisance abatement Ordinance
- Alternatives to parking and more efficient means of moving people
- Meet with Comcast and FPL regarding removal/replacement of poles

It was also noted that the Commissioners wished to invite the Town's recycling provider to a future meeting to discuss the amount of recycling that is being done.

3. ADJOURNMENT

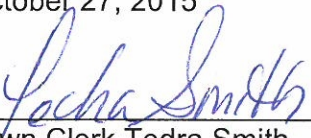
With no further business to come before the Board at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 6:31 p.m.



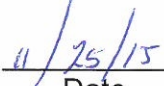
Mayor Scot Sasser

ATTEST:

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Town Clerk Tedra Smith



Date