

**MEETING MINUTES
TOWN OF LAUDERDALE-BY-THE-SEA
TOWN COMMISSION
VIRTUAL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Jarvis Hall
4505 Ocean Drive
Tuesday, May 26, 2020
6:30 PM**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Chris Vincent called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Also present via teleconference were Vice Mayor Alfred "Buz" Oldaker, Commissioner Edmund Malkoon, Commissioner Elliot Sokolow, Commissioner Randy Strauss, Town Manager Bill Vance, Town Attorney Susan L. Trevarthen, Assistant to the Town Manager Neysa Herrera, Finance Director Lucila Lang, Municipal Services Director Ken Rubach, Town Engineer Jay Flynn, Development Services Director Linda Connors, Public Information Officer Steve d'Oliveira, and Town Clerk Tedra Allen.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

3. INVOCATION – Moment of Silence

All in attendance observed a moment of silence.

4. ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, DEFERRALS OF AGENDA ITEMS

None.

5. PRESENTATIONS

5.a Dennis Royes Proclamation (Debbie Hime, Special Projects Coordinator)

Mayor Vincent read a Proclamation in honor of longtime Pelican Hopper driver Dennis Royes on the occasion of his retirement, recognizing May 26, 2020 as Dennis Royes Day in Lauderdale-By-The-Sea.

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Town Clerk Tedra Allen read the following public comment:

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- Barbara Cole, resident, thanked the Mayor, Commission, and Town Staff for their handling of the Town's recent Phase 1 reopening of businesses

With no other individuals submitting comments at this time, Mayor Vincent closed public comment.

7. PUBLIC SAFETY DISCUSSION

None.

8. TOWN MANAGER REPORT

8.a Town Manager Report (Bill Vance, Town Manager)

Town Manager Bill Vance advised that the Town's Employee Safety Committee will initiate discussions regarding how and when to begin more active coordination with the public in Town facilities. This is anticipated toward the end of June or early July 2020.

Assistant to the Town Manager Neysa Herrera reported that on Friday, May 22, 2020, Broward County issued Emergency Order 20-13, which allows all County beaches to open with certain restrictions:

- Beaches are open from sunrise to sunset
- Swimming, surfing, kayaking, paddleboarding, body surfing, walking, running, and biking are permitted
- Picnicking, sunbathing, sitting/lying on the beach is prohibited
- Umbrellas, canopies, chairs, loungers, and coolers are prohibited
- Group gatherings and events and organized sports for more than 10 individuals are prohibited
- Individuals must maintain 6 ft. of physical distance at all times if they are not members of the same household

Other businesses allowed to reopen as part of Phase 1 include restaurants, salons, hotels/motels, retail businesses, and professional and personal services. Town parking is open on a limited basis, and restaurants must follow all recommended guidelines as stated in Emergency Order 2010, including:

- Limiting indoor capacity to 50%
- Outdoor seating preferred, with tables 6 ft. apart
- Restaurants must provide disposable or digital menus
- Businesses must make hand sanitizer available to patrons

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- Personal services businesses must operate by appointment
- Gyms, fitness centers, and community rooms are permitted to reopen at 50% capacity
- Broward County Emergency Order 20-07 requires all individuals to wear facial coverings
- Hotels/motels and other lodgings are subject to safety guidelines and cleaning protocols set forth by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC)

To reduce the spread of the COVID-19 virus, Town Staff has developed initiatives to increase social distancing at outdoor dining opportunities. In coordination with the Chamber of Commerce and the Lodging Association, the Town has created pedestrian-friendly signs to support newly reopened businesses while reminding residents and visitors of the guidelines that must be followed.

The Town has invested an amount not to exceed \$14,000 over 30 days to lease existing water barriers, which are now in place Downtown. The cancellation of the Town's 4th of July event left sufficient funds in the current budget to cover these costs.

In continued support of Town businesses, the Development Services Department will waive permit fees during the months of May and June 2020, provided the Commission does not object.

On March 31, 2020, the Broward County Board of County Commissioners approved a policy on County-wide tidal flood barrier standards. Municipalities must come into compliance with this policy, which includes new regulations and height requirements for seawalls, berms, and other barriers, over a 24-month period. The Development Services Department will ensure the Town complies with these standards.

In December 2019, the Town Commission selected the Corradino Group to prepare a circulation enhancement plan to increase connectivity of pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure within the Town. Residents are encouraged to fill out the public outreach survey on the Town's website, which will be available beginning May 27, 2020. Residents will also be notified of the survey's availability through the NextDoor app and the Town's public access channel.

Improvements on Terra Mar Island are 100% complete and the guaranteed maximum price (GMP) has been submitted to Staff for review. This item will come before the Commission for further discussion at their June 9, 2020 meeting.

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The Town has received 235 responses thus far regarding the El Mar Drive improvement project. The deadline for responses is May 27, 2020. The survey is available on the project website, www.LBTSEIMar.com . Responses to a survey for the Stormwater Master Plan update, which is available on the Town's website, are due May 31.

The Friedt Park courtyard improvements are ongoing, with drainage recently installed and grading underway. The Jarvis Hall exterior portico improvements have also begun, starting with tile replacement. Other projects underway or anticipated include:

- Update to the 2015 parking study
- The Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has granted permission for the relocation of sea grapes

Some of the classes held at the Town's Community Center are being recorded and broadcast on the public access channel. Community Center Manager Armilio Bien-Aime will send an email to individuals who have expressed interest in participating in these activities. He can be reached at ArmilioB@yahoo.com .

Sea turtle nesting season officially began on March 1, 2020. The Broward County Sea Turtle Conservation Program continues to monitor turtle activity: as of May 15, there were 353 nests in Broward County, of which roughly 6% were in Lauderdale-By-The-Sea. Individuals are reminded to use turtle-appropriate lighting on beachfront properties and can reach out to Broward County for information or assistance at (954) 519-1255.

Mayor Vincent requested an update on the status of vacation rental properties, noting that Broward County is preparing to submit plans to the Governor to facilitate these properties' reopening. Development Services Director Linda Connors advised that the Town will follow up with the County for more information.

Commissioner Malkoon requested additional information regarding the resumption of services at Town Hall. Town Manager Vance explained that the Town is looking into prices on Plexiglas fixtures for the front office and Building Department.

Mayor Vincent emphasized that it is not within his or the Town's purview to relax the restrictions placed on beaches by Broward County. The Town may opt to be more restrictive than the County, but may not be less restrictive.

Vice Mayor Oldaker asked how turtle nest monitoring is being carried out under current social distancing guidelines. Assistant to the Town Manager Herrera replied that she would look into this and bring back more information. Town Manager Vance pointed out

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that turtle monitoring groups are typically present before sunrise, when there is no crowding on the beaches.

Municipal Services Director Ken Rubach reported that drainage improvements have been made to Friedt Park and contractors are now working on grading. Although work has been briefly delayed due to rain, the project remains on schedule.

Town Manager Vance noted that Staff has received both positive and negative feedback from Downtown businesses regarding the water barriers. He pointed out that the barriers were installed in the interest of public safety and provide an opportunity for Town restaurants to increase outdoor dining, which would also have a positive effect on supporting businesses. The Town intends to keep the barriers in place for another three weeks, at which time they will be reevaluated.

8.b March 2020 Finance Report (Lucila Lang, Finance Manager)

Finance Director Lucila Lang advised that the Town has reopened 100% of its parking facilities, with the exception of Commercial Boulevard east of A1A, which remains closed to provide greater flexibility to restaurants for outdoor seating. All parking meters on Commercial Boulevard west of A1A are operational, while the meters at El Prado are 50% operational. Spaces located near the public restrooms south of Commercial Boulevard are not yet in operation.

There were no parking revenues during the month of April and only a minimal amount is expected in May. 2019 parking revenues were roughly \$301,000 in April and \$228,000 in May.

Finance Director Lang continued that the Town has made approximately \$52,000 in expenditures related to COVID-19. Additional expenses for personal protective equipment (PPE) are expected over the coming months, as well as sanitation products and equipment. Public safety expenses are anticipated in relation to Phase 1 reopening as well as subsequent phases through Labor Day 2020.

Commissioner Sokolow asked if the state of Florida has provided any information regarding the anticipated decrease in shared revenues from sales and gas taxes. Finance Director Lang and Town Manager Vance confirmed that they have received no feedback of this nature.

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Vice Mayor Oldaker commented that the parking spaces on El Mar Drive south of Commercial Boulevard should be opened, as they are close to the Downtown area. Town Manager Vance explained that the Town wishes to promote the opportunity for convenient Downtown parking while also prioritizing space on the beach for local residents and guests. He emphasized that parking policies can be revisited to determine if a better solution is possible.

Municipal Services Director Rubach advised that while there have been few visitors to the Town in recent weeks, metering equipment still requires service. Staff also works to maintain traffic circulation and parking regulations. One Town employee has been furloughed and another has opted to take reduced hours.

9. TOWN ATTORNEY REPORT

Town Attorney Susan Trevarthen stated that she would seek to schedule an Executive Session to discuss settlement negotiations and strategy related to the case of *Lauderdale-By-The-Sea vs. FDG*, as permitted by Florida Statute 286.0118. She also requested that one Commission member be designated as a liaison for this case. It was determined by consensus that Commissioner Strauss would serve as liaison.

10. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

10.a April 28, 2020 Town Commission Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Sokolow made a motion, seconded by Vice Mayor Oldaker, to approve. Motion carried 5-0.

10.b May 12, 2020 Town Commission Meeting Minutes

Vice Mayor Oldaker made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Strauss, to approve. Motion carried 5-0.

11. CONSENT AGENDA

None.

12. OLD BUSINESS

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12.a Pedestrian Plan – Public Participation Meeting (Linda Connors, Development Services Director)

Development Services Director Connors recalled that at the December 10, 2019 meeting, the Commission approved a contract with Corradino and Associates to proceed with a pedestrian plan study. As the Town was unable to hold a public participation meeting due to the COVID-19 pandemic, they have asked Corradino to develop a survey for this plan. It will be available on the Town's website to gather input from residents and other stakeholders.

Katherine Lang, representing Corradino and Associates, provided a brief presentation on the Pedestrian and Bicycle Circulation Study, which will be a supportive document to the transportation element of the Town's Comprehensive Plan. Goals of the study are as follows:

- Study existing conditions in order to enhance connectivity between various modes of travel
- Meet the goals of the Town Action Plan
- Ensure the community's pedestrian experience is enjoyable and safe
- Improve connectivity and provide access for all individuals, regardless of their mode of travel

The survey is intended to allow residents to share their experiences from walking and/or biking in the Town.

Ms. Lang continued that Lauderdale-By-The-Sea's adoption of Complete Streets guidelines ensure active transportation and promote healthy living. The Town would like to identify other bicycle and pedestrian improvements that can be implemented in the area, along with comfort-related improvements such as updated street furniture, landscaping, and transit shelters.

Next steps include incorporating the results of the public survey into a project list, which will ultimately be sent to the Commission for approval. Ms. Lang encouraged the public to provide feedback on what is lacking in their neighborhoods as well as the enhancements they would like to see.

Development Services Director Connors added that the survey will also assist the Town in determining projects that would be submitted for future Broward County surtax funding.

13. NEW BUSINESS

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None.

14. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Malkoon thanked Town Staff for their work with local businesses and the Chamber of Commerce during Phase 1 reopening. He also noted that hurricane season begins on June 1, 2020, and encouraged residents to think in advance of items they would need in the event of a storm.

Commissioner Strauss emphasized the need to support local businesses and restaurants.

Vice Mayor Oldaker also complimented the recent Downtown reopening.

Mayor Vincent encouraged individuals to abide by social distancing and health guidelines and wear masks or face coverings for protective purposes wherever possible.

15. ORDINANCES 1ST READING

None.

16. ORDINANCES 2ND READING

None.

17. RESOLUTIONS – PUBLIC COMMENTS

17.a Resolution 2020-21 – A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF LAUDERDALE-BY-THE-SEA, FLORIDA, RATIFYING AND APPROVING ALL EMERGENCY ORDERS AND ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE MAYOR CONCERNING OR RELATED TO THE COVID-19 EMERGENCY; AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO DO ALL THINGS NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT THE AIMS OF THIS RESOLUTION; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF ANY CONFLICTING RESOLUTION; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

At this time Mayor Vincent opened public comment, which he closed upon receiving no input.

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Town Attorney Trevarthen clarified that this Resolution has been reissued to accompany any new orders from the County or state.

Commissioner Sokolow made a motion, seconded by Vice Mayor Oldaker, to approve. Motion carried 5-0.

18. QUASI JUDICIAL PUBLIC HEARING

None.

19. ADJOURNMENT

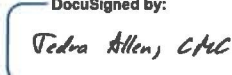
With no other business to come before the Commission at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

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Mayor Chris Vincent

ATTEST:

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Town Clerk Tedra Allen

6/10/2020

Date