

**WORKSHOP MEETING
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TOWN OF REDINGTON SHORES
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 27, 2008 – 7:00 P.M.**

MINUTES

Present Upon Roll Call: Commissioner Wojcik; Commissioner Branch; Commissioner Holthaus; Vice Mayor Adams; Mayor Armstrong.

OLD BUSINESS

Discussion – Proposed Ordinance – Structures Left On Beach

Mayor Armstrong referred to photo's supplied by Environmental Management that showed the turtle nesting being disrupted by objects such as chairs, tents, etc. left on the beach, and asked for discussion regarding a nuisance ordinance to prevent people from leaving objects on the beach for periods of time. Vice Mayor Adams explained that the maintenance crew is reluctant to remove the objects for fear of being accused of stealing private property. There was much discussion from both Commissioners and residents in favor of and opposing the language in the current proposed ordinance, including use of fines and red tags on the equipment. It was agreed that the proposed ordinance would go back to Attorney Denhardt to soften some of the verbiage, to make it more enabling rather than prohibitive.

Discussion – FY 2008/2009 Budget

Mayor Armstrong explained that the budget is very conservative, partially due to the \$431,000 loan repayment. Due to a budget shortfall at the state level there may be more cuts in the next 2 years. Commissioner Wojcik cited the high cost of insurance; Mayor Armstrong said it is the best the Town can come up with now. The undergrounding and stormwater projects – partially invested by SWFWMD monies – are projects that invest in the Town's infrastructure, which Mayor Armstrong said is the right thing to do now. The next budget meeting will be September 8; Commissioner Branch said he would be unable to attend.

NEW BUSINESS

Coastal Cleanup October 18, 2008

Mayor Armstrong asked for volunteers for the annual coastal cleanup, which will be October 18. Commissioner Wojcik said some of the volunteers who helped with sea oats planting may come, as well as some high school students. The turnout each year has been small. Mayor Armstrong asked if Commissioner Wojcik would be a site captain.

Proposed Resolution – Response to Pinellas County Resolution on Boundary Agreement Act

Mayor Armstrong explained that there are 22 cities in a potential resolution to participate with Pinellas County in directing annexations that may come up. The cities are involved in creating a counter resolution to benefit the cities. Mayor Armstrong said that if the cities don't take action Florida Statutes will take control. It was agreed that the Town will wait for the outcome from Attorney Denhardt's Resolution with Pinellas Park.

MISCELLANEOUS

Mayor Armstrong spoke about a new canvassing board law. The Supervisor of Elections is urging the County to canvass the elections. Currently with each town canvassing elections an audit is performed each time; if the County canvasses it would randomly select audits. There is a fee for each audit; Mayor Armstrong asked Mary

Palmer to find out if there is a fee to use the County for canvassing, or for the audits, so that a Resolution can be drawn up for the next regular meeting.

Mayor Armstrong referred to a resolution discussed at the Big-C meeting regarding near shore oil exploring drilling, which will be heard by the U.S. Congress country-wide. Mayor Armstrong recommended passage of the Resolution to ban this off-shore drilling at the next meeting. When asked what the current off-shore distance is, Mayor Armstrong said it is 125 miles; Mayor Armstrong also said there will be a presentation on Saturday, August 30 from 6 to 8 p.m. about this topic, and invited interested parties to attend. Mayor Armstrong congratulated Steve Andrews for his reappointment to the PCCLB Board.

Mayor Armstrong also stated that there is a federal moratorium on commercial docks in Pinellas County due to the number of manatee deaths.

Mayor Armstrong mentioned that there were concerns from one of the Planning & Zoning members that of the 16 variances heard in the past 1 ½ years, 14 were approved. Mayor Armstrong asked for discussion regarding whether the board is rubber stamping the requests rather than considering each as a hardship or exception. It was brought to the Commission's attention that perhaps the hearings should consider closer adherence to the code.

Commissioner Branch reported that the new palms are being planted, and the old palms have been replanted in both parks and the parking lot area.

Commissioner Wojcik said he has inventoried all 16 beach accesses, took photo's, and showed the status as well as recommendations for upgrades. Copies of the inventories will be provided to Mary Palmer. Commissioner Wojcik also expressed appreciation to all the staff for the preparations for Hurricane Fay. Commissioner Wojcik suggested that the declaration of emergency status, as well as cancellation of such status, should match the County time frame automatically. Furthermore, a supply of sand should be available prior to possible evacuation.

Mayor Armstrong will be out of town for the September 10 meeting; Vice Mayor Adams will preside.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patti Herr
Deputy Town Clerk