

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TOWN OF REDINGTON SHORES
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2009 – 7:00 P.M.
MINUTES**

Present upon roll call: Commissioner Wojcik, Commissioner Branch, Commissioner Holthaus, Vice Mayor Adams, Mayor Armstrong and Attorney Denhardt.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Regular Meeting, Wednesday, January 14, 2009; Workshop Meeting, Wednesday, January 28, 2009.

Commissioner Holthaus moved to approve the minutes as stated, seconded by Commissioner Branch. Roll call: all yes.

APPROVAL OF BILLS – February 2009

Vice Mayor Adams moved to approve the February 2009 bills, seconded by Commissioner Branch. Roll call: all yes.

COMMISSION REPORTS

Mayor Armstrong

Tourist Development Council – statistical data on tourism in the state of Florida for St.Pete/Clearwater, year over year the state is down 2%, which is very good considering the economic climate, the European Market is up 15.3%. Without the double digit increase tourism would have been down approximately 17% year over year.

SWFWMD – water shortage is in extreme alert. Water restrictions will be posted on the web site and access channel.

Vice Mayor Adams, Commissioner District No 1

Indian Shores Police Department – criminal reports are up, physical arrest, traffic accidents, traffic citations, parking citations are down. Other calls with no reports are up.

Vice Mayor Adams thanked Commissioner Branch and Steve Andrews for the work they have done on the lift stations rehab and the stormwater project.

Commissioner Branch, Commissioner District No 2

Commissioner Branch announced that resident Dorothy Gourley, one of our oldest residents, 103 years old, passed away; condolences to the family.

Stormwater Project – can get a little noisier, as boxes need to be set and pumps could be running at night.

Commissioner Wojcik, Commissioner District No 3

Commissioner Wojcik thanked Mary Palmer for creating the data for the new access channel.

Flood Plain Management Plan – Jeff Rue has resigned his position on the committee. The new plan will be presented to the Commission at the next meeting.

Pinellas County Local Mitigation Strategy – the town has submitted two new projects for possible funding through the Metropolitan Planning Council, (two crosswalks and underground wires crossing Gulf Blvd. Thank you to Steve Andrews for getting the projects on the list before the deadline.

Gulf Beaches Public Library – Second Annual Food for Thought Fund Raiser is scheduled for Saturday, March 7th from 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. Tickets are on sale at town hall. The Ad-Hoc Committee is updating the Interlocal

Agreement between the five communities that are participating in the current Interlocal Agreement. Areas that will be addressed in the new agreement are: What options are available if one or more of the towns walk away from the agreement.

Commissioner Holthaus, Commissioner District No 4

Parks – the time capsule at Constitution Park will be cleaned. The dead trees at Del Bello Park will be removed.

OLD BUSINESS

Ordinance 09-01 First Reading – Time Constraints on Variances and Site Plans

Mayor Armstrong stated this ordinance would put a one-year start time on all approved plans and variances.

Attorney Denhardt read Ordinance 09-01 by title. Vice Mayor Adams moved to approve Ordinance 09-01 on first reading, seconded by Commissioner Branch. Roll call: all yes.

NEW BUSINESS

Planning and Zoning Recommendation- 17400 Gulf Blvd. Tower Isle Condominium

Building Official Steve Andrews reviewed the request with the Commission. A ten foot easement would be dedicated to the town for future undergrounding. The Planning and Zoning Board recommended approval for a five-foot fence with landscaping out front. Mr. Andrews referred to the Gulf Boulevard Overlay District plan for landscaping, which requires two palm trees and grass. The applicant did not want to place trees out front because of the expense of installing a water system. Ralph Wilhite addressed the Commission in regard to their request. The association would like to install an attractive scalloped 5-foot fence along the front of their parking area. Because of the tight space between the curb and the front of the parking pavilions, they have chosen to transfer the landscaping improvements to the front of the building. The palm trees and the grass will be visible from the street. Commissioner Wojcik asked if the Gulf Boulevard Overlay District has specifications for landscaping in the town's Land Development Code. Steve Andrews stated there are not specifications. Vice Mayor Adams moved to approve the recommendation of the Planning and Zoning Board, seconded by Commissioner Branch. Roll call: all yes. Commissioner Wojcik thanked the Planning and Zoning Board for putting a one year limit on the project.

Attorney Denhardt addressed the Commission in regard to the law suit the Gulf Mariner Condominium Association has instituted against the Town of Redington Shores concerning one of the two easements at the end of 176th Ave. West. Attorney Denhardt would like advice from the Commission concerning the pending litigation, which the town is a party of. Attorney Denhardt would like the Commission to consider holding a non public Attorney-Client session, which is allowed under F.S. 286.011(8) to discuss the matter pertaining to the litigation. The meeting is opened as a public meeting, and then a confidential session will be held. At the conclusion of the confidential session the public meeting would resume and conclude. With the exception of Commissioner Wojcik the Commission agreed to meet on Tuesday, February 17th, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. Commissioner Wojcik will check his schedule to see if he will be able to attend. Mayor Armstrong announced the following: The Town Commission of the Town of Redington Shores will hold a meeting on Tuesday night February 17, 2009 at 7:00 p.m., at Town Hall, 17425 Gulf Boulevard, Redington Shores, Florida. During such meeting, the Town Commission will conduct an Attorney-Client session with its Attorney to discuss the pending litigation to which the Town is presently a party as brought by Gulf Mariner Condominium Association, as Plaintiffs in the lawsuit. The subject matter of such meeting will be confined to settlement negotiations or strategy sessions related to litigation expenditures. The session shall commence at an open meeting. Those present during the Attorney-Client negotiations will be the following: Mayor Jody Armstrong; Vice Mayor Bert Adams; Commissioner John Branch; Commissioner Casey Wojcik; Commissioner Bob Holthaus; Town Clerk Mary Palmer as the Chief Administrative Officer of the Town; James W. Denhardt, the Town's attorney; Virginia Hyland, a certified Court Reporter or other certified Court Reporter from Suncoast Reporting Services of St. Petersburg.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Ralph Wilhite thanked the Commission for their consideration of the Planning and Zoning recommendation.

MISCELLANEOUS

Workshop Meeting – Wednesday, February 25, 2009 – 7:00 p.m.

Regular Meeting – Wednesday, March 11, 2009 – 7:00 p.m.

Commissioner Wojcik asked what the process is for the bids being received for the Beach Access Improvements. Commissioner Wojcik stated the evaluation criteria are not specified in the RFP. Steve Andrews stated the town has never done a selection committee on this type of bid. After the bid is opened Steve Andrews will review the bids and make a recommendation to the Commission for selection. Mayor Armstrong stated the Commission will rely on Steve Andrews' recommendation as done with other RFP's.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary F. Palmer, MMC
Town Clerk