Islamorada, Village of Islands

REGULAR VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING

May 7, 2024 - 5:30 PM
Founders Park Community Center
87000 Overseas Highway
Islamorada, FL 33036

MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Mayor Joseph B. Pinder III called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

PRESENT: Council Member Mark Gregg, Council Member Elizabeth Jolin, Council Member Henry Rosenthal, Vice Mayor Sharon Mahoney, Mayor Joseph B. Pinder III,

ABSENT:

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Firefighter Mohammed Abukahok led the Pledge of Allegiance and Tony Hammon started the meeting with a prayer.

III. AGENDA: Requests for Deletion / Emergency Additions

Council Member Henry Rosenthal requested moving Consent Agenda Tabs 4, 5, and 6 to the Regular Agenda.

Interim Village Attorney John Quick asked to move Tab Y, concerning the purchase of the church at 83250 Overseas Highway, to the May 9 Land Use Council Meeting agenda.

IV. REPORTS, PRESENTATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Proclamation Declaring May 19 - 25, 2024, as Emergency Medical Services Week -**TAB 1**

Mayor Pinder read the proclamation and declared May 19 - 24 as EMS Week.

B. Monroe County Micro-Transit On-Demand Service Update

Monroe County Transit Director Richard Clark presented an analysis of the countywide transit situation and summarized the findings. He noted the County is applying for a grant to implement a ferry from Islamorada, Marathon, and Key West. He reported that the Microtransit RFP evaluation committee selected FreeBee. Mr. Clark indicated that if the long-term goal is consistent Countywide transit, the Village needs to decide on partnership options with the County.

Village Manager Rob Cole noted the next steps would be to contact DOT regarding the grant funds and ask them to modify the terms. He noted DOT is accepting as long as we can make a decision by June 12, therefore Council would have to consider the matter at the June meeting.

Council was generally in favor of pursuing discussions with DOT and BOCC.

C. Monroe County Schools Baseball Update

Monroe County Schools Executive Director of Operations and Planning Patrick LaFere summarized the School District's process, noting he had met with Village Manager Rob Cole to discuss proposed improvements to the ball field. They were bringing the Interlocal Agreement forward tonight. If approved, they would come back with an operating agreement to specify the requested improvements. Mr. LaFere stressed that no design was proposed at this time and indicated that public and council involvement was crucial. He noted the School Board and Village Council must agree on each step.

D. Canal 147 Lower Matecumbe Restoration Project & Proposed New Special Assessment

Environmental Resource Manager Pete Frezza summarized the proposed special assessment to restore Canal 147 noting the work plan for canal restoration has been incorporated into our Comp Plan. He noted that in an evaluation to determine which canals were most in need of restoration Canal 147 was number one. He indicated that the canal needs organic removal, an air curtain and backfilling. He noted the willingness of the affected homeowners to participate. We have a $2.5 million grant to fund everything up to the operation and routine maintenance of the air curtain. The total annual cost is estimated to be around $22,515 for residents to fund the system, which would be between $1000 - $1250 per homeowner.

Mr. Frezza announced that he was holding a meeting on Thursday, May 9 to share prospective costs with homeowners. He noted that a vote of residents would decide whether we do this. He noted that no action was required by Council at this time, and this item was for Council's edification.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

(This is general public comment. It provides an opportunity for the public to speak about matters not scheduled elsewhere on the agenda. The mayor opens public comment on agenda items throughout the meeting.)

Mayor Joseph B. Pinder III opened public comment.

Speakers included:

Roland Moore
Alina Davis
Van Cadenhead
Deb Gillis
David Helker
Don Horton
Terry Abel

There being no one else wishing to speak, Mayor Pinder closed public comment.

VI. MAYOR / COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS

A. Discussion Surrounding Prioritization of BPAS and Administrative Relief Allocations (Council Member Gregg) **POCKET**

Council Member Mark Gregg introduced the item noting his wish to get a conversation going about how the Village would deal with upcoming Administrative Relief cases.

Council generally agreed that this conservation should come from the Planning Department, not a Council Member.

Planning Director Jennifer DeBoisbriand noted she recently submitted a timeline for Council approval on this subject. She indicated that the timeline had this conversation coming to Council around August.

VII. VILLAGE ATTORNEY / VILLAGE MANAGER COMMUNICATIONS

A. Committee Ordinance Old Business - LPA Appointments, Staggered Terms and Council Liaison Assignments - **TAB 2**

Village Clerk Marne McGrath introduced the item, noting that there were no openings on the LPA and that all current members were interested in continuing, so there were no new applicants.

Village Manager Rob Cole suggested Council determine which members should have their terms extended to accomplish staggered terms. It was agreed to extend the terms of the three applicants who received the most nominations in the first round. A resolution would be submitted for approval in June to extend the terms of Cheryl Culberson, Lorie LaLonde, and James Rhyne for an additional year.

It was also noted that the ordinance requires each committee to have a Council Liaison to facilitate discussions between committees and the Council and to report back to Council. The discussion on liaisons was moved to the Thursday meeting.

VIII. CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Joseph B. Pinder III opened public comment.

There being no one wishing to speak, Mayor Pinder closed public comment.

ACTION:	Motion to approve Consent Agenda items 3 and 7 VIII. by Sharon Mahoney second by Mark Gregg; Motion passed with a 5:0 vote
AYES:	Mark Gregg, Elizabeth Jolin, Henry Rosenthal, Sharon Mahoney, Joseph B. Pinder III
NAYS:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

A. Approval of Minutes from April 9, 2024 Regular Village Council Meeting, and April 11, 2024 Land Use Village Council Meeting - **TAB 3** (Marne McGrath, Village Clerk)

B. Resolution Approving and Ratifying FY 23-24 Purchases from F.J. Nugent for the Wastewater Department - **TAB 7** (A.J. Engelmeyer, Public Works Director)

A RESOLUTION OF THE VILLAGE COUNCIL OF ISLAMORADA, VILLAGE OF ISLANDS, FLORIDA, RATIFYING INCREASING AUTHORIZED PURCHASES FROM F.J. NUGENT AND ASSOCIATES, INC., THROUGH THE END OF FY 2023-2024; AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE MANAGER TO EXPEND BUDGETED FUNDS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

IX. RESOLUTIONS

A. Resolution Approving Recommendation and Agreement for Plantation Tropical Preserve Gazebo Project - **TAB 4** (Peter Frezza, Environmental Resources Manager)

A RESOLUTION OF THE VILLAGE COUNCIL OF ISLAMORADA, VILLAGE OF ISLANDS, FLORIDA, APPROVING THE FINAL RANKINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE RFP 24-08 EVALUATION COMMITTEE FOR SELECTION OF A CONTRACTOR FOR THE PLANTATION TROPICAL PRESERVE PROJECT; AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE MANAGER AND VILLAGE ATTORNEY TO NEGOTIATE AN AGREEMENT FOR THE REQUESTED SERVICES; AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE MANAGER TO EXECUTE THE AGREEMENT; AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE MANAGER TO EXPEND BUDGETED FUNDS; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

Mayor Joseph B. Pinder III opened public comment.

Speakers included:
Van Cadenhead

There being no one else wishing to speak, Mayor Pinder closed public comment.

ACTION:	Motion to approve item IX.A. by Elizabeth Jolin second by Mark Gregg; Motion passed with a 5:0 vote
AYES:	Mark Gregg, Elizabeth Jolin, Henry Rosenthal, Sharon Mahoney, Joseph B. Pinder III
NAYS:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

B. Interlocal Agreement with the School Board of Monroe County for Recreational Improvement and Use of Village Facilities - **TAB X** (Robert Cole, Village Manager)

A RESOLUTION OF THE VILLAGE COUNCIL OF ISLAMORADA, VILLAGE OF ISLANDS, FLORIDA, APPROVING AN INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH THE SCHOOL BOARD OF

MONROE COUNTY, FLORIDA REGARDING THE PROVISION OF ENHANCED RECREATION FACILITIES AND OPPORTUNITIES WITHIN THE VILLAGE; AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE MANAGER TO EXECUTE THE INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT; PROVIDING FOR IMPLEMENTATION, CORRECTIONS, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

The item was moved up in the agenda to consideration after Tab 4.

Village Manager Rob Cole noted this agreement is to license the School District to use the baseball field as it was and no renovation plan was attached to this item.

Mayor Joseph B. Pinder III opened public comment.

Speakers included:

Deb Gillis
Tony Hammon
Rich Russell
Van Cadenhead
Alina Davis

There being no one else wishing to speak, Mayor Pinder closed public comment.

ACTION:	Motion to approve item IX.B. by Sharon Mahoney second by Mark Gregg; Motion passed with a 5:0 vote
AYES:	Mark Gregg, Elizabeth Jolin, Henry Rosenthal, Sharon Mahoney, Joseph B. Pinder III
NAYS:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

C. Resolution Approving Recommendation and Agreement for Surveillance Camera System - **TAB 5** (Vince Tarves, Systems Engineer)

A RESOLUTION OF THE VILLAGE COUNCIL OF ISLAMORADA, VILLAGE OF ISLANDS, FLORIDA, APPROVING THE FINAL RANKINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE RFP 24-04 EVALUATION COMMITTEE FOR SELECTION OF A CONTRACTOR FOR THE SURVEILLANCE CAMERA SYSTEM PROJECT; AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE MANAGER AND VILLAGE ATTORNEY TO NEGOTIATE AN AGREEMENT FOR THE REQUESTED SERVICES; AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE MANAGER TO EXECUTE THE AGREEMENT; APPROVING A BUDGET AMENDMENT; AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE MANAGER TO EXPEND BUDGETED FUNDS; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

Mayor Joseph B. Pinder III opened public comment.

There being no one wishing to speak, Mayor Pinder closed public comment.

ACTION:	Motion to approve item VIII.C. by Henry Rosenthal second by Mark Gregg; Motion passed with a 5:0 vote
AYES:	Mark Gregg, Elizabeth Jolin, Henry Rosenthal, Sharon Mahoney, Joseph B. Pinder III
NAYS:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

Mayor Pinder called recess to the meeting at 8:26 p.m.

D. Resolution Approving Ranking of Proposals and Negotiation of an Agreement for the Inclusive Playground for Founders Park Beach - **TAB 6** (Maria Bagiotti, Founders Park Director)

A RESOLUTION OF THE VILLAGE COUNCIL OF ISLAMORADA, VILLAGE OF ISLANDS, FLORIDA, APPROVING THE RANKING OF THE RFP 24-06 EVALUATION COMMITTEE FOR DESIGN AND INSTALLATION OF AN INCLUSIVE PLAYGROUND FOR FOUNDERS PARK BEACH; AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE MANAGER AND VILLAGE ATTORNEY TO NEGOTIATE AN AGREEMENT; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

Mayor Pinder reconvened the meeting at 8:51 p.m.

Founders Park Director Maria Bagiotti noted that this project was budgeted in response to a request to upgrade play equipment. The Evaluation Team selected Playmore, who submitted three different designs and installed the new playground at Library Beach. Ms. Bagiotti noted this was an item only to approve the ranking of the companies and there was no design to be considered at this time. She noted an application was in for TDC funding, which would be decided in June.

Mayor Joseph B. Pinder III opened public comment.

Speakers included:
Deb Gillis

There being no one else wishing to speak, Mayor Pinder closed public comment.

ACTION:	Motion to approve item IX.D. by Mark Gregg second by Henry Rosenthal; Motion passed with a 5:0 vote
AYES:	Mark Gregg, Elizabeth Jolin, Henry Rosenthal, Sharon Mahoney, Joseph B. Pinder III
NAYS:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

E. Amended 2024 Building Permit Allocation System (BPAS) Quarterly Distribution Schedule - **TAB 8** (Jennifer DeBoisbriand , Planning Director)

A RESOLUTION OF THE VILLAGE COUNCIL OF ISLAMORADA, VILLAGE OF ISLANDS, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE 2024 TOTAL AMOUNT OF NONRESIDENTIAL FLOOR AREA AND RESIDENTIAL DWELLING UNITS, QUARTERLY ALLOCATIONS, AND THE DISTRIBUTION OF ALLOCATIONS BETWEEN CATEGORIES OF THE BUILDING PERMIT ALLOCATION SYSTEM FOR 2024; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

Planning Director Jennifer DeBoisbriand introduced the amended quarterly BPAS allocation.

Mayor Joseph B. Pinder III opened public comment.

Speakers included:
Deb Gillis
Ty Harris
Donna Carbrera
Luis Martinez
Don Horton
David Helker
Van Cadenhead

There being no one else wishing to speak, Mayor Pinder closed public comment.

ACTION:	Motion to approve item IX.E. by Sharon Mahoney second by Elizabeth Jolin; Motion passed with a 4:1 vote
AYES:	Elizabeth Jolin, Henry Rosenthal, Sharon Mahoney, Joseph B. Pinder III
NAYS:	Mark Gregg
ABSTAIN:	None

F. Resolution Approving Donation of Motor Vessel from the Islamorada Firefighter's Benevolent Association and Establishing Fire Marine Emergency Response Program - **TAB 9** (Terry Abel, Fire Chief)

A RESOLUTION OF THE VILLAGE COUNCIL OF ISLAMORADA, VILLAGE OF ISLANDS, FLORIDA, ACCEPTING THE DONATION OF A FIRE BOAT FROM ISLAMORADA FIREFIGHTERS' BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION; THE APPROVING A DONATION AGREEMENT IN CONNECTION WITH THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE FIRE BOAT; AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE MANAGER TO EXECUTE THE DONATION AGREEMENT; PROVIDING FOR THE FINANCE DIRECTOR TO MAKE THE APPROPRIATE CHANGES TO THE VILLAGE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO REFLECT THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE ASSET; PROVIDING FOR THE FIRE CHIEF TO ESTABLISH A MARINE-BASED EMERGENCY RESPONSE PROGRAM; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

Fire Chief Terry Abel stated that State Representative Lauren Melo introduced a $300,000 appropriation for a marine emergency boat and the Firefighter Benevolent Association donated a boat to use as a stopgap. Chief Abel indicated the budget impact was expected to be around $50,000 per year based on the spending of other departments with this type of program.

Mayor Joseph B. Pinder III opened public comment.

Speakers included:
State Rep. Lauren Melo

There being no one else wishing to speak, Mayor Pinder closed public comment.

ACTION:	Motion to approve item IX.F. by Henry Rosenthal second by Mark Gregg; Motion passed with a 5:0 vote
AYES:	Mark Gregg, Elizabeth Jolin, Henry Rosenthal, Sharon Mahoney, Joseph B. Pinder III
NAYS:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

G. Resolution Approving Purchase of Real Property Located at 83250 Overseas Highway and Associated Budget Amendment - **TAB Y - Moved to 5/9 Land Use Meeting** (Robert Cole, Village Manager)
A RESOLUTION OF THE VILLAGE COUNCIL OF ISLAMORADA, VILLAGE OF ISLANDS, FLORIDA, APPROVING THE PURCHASE AND SALE AGREEMENT BETWEEN ISLAMORADA, VILLAGE OF ISLANDS AND ISLAND COMMUNITY CHURCH, INC.; AUTHORIZING VILLAGE OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE, DELIVER AND IMPLEMENT THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE PURCHASE AND SALE AGREEMENT; PROVIDING FOR AUTHORIZATION; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
This item was moved to the May 9 agenda.

X. MOTIONS

A. Motion to Amend November Village Council Meeting Schedule to Hold the Regular Village Council Meeting on November 19, 2024, and the Land Use Council Meeting on November 21, 2024 (Marne McGrath, Village Clerk)

Village Clerk Marne McGrath noted the November 5 Election would not be certified by the County and Village Boards of Canvassers until November 18. Moving the meetings to the following week gives the new Council the opportunity to begin their service in November rather than having to wait for the December meeting.

Mayor Joseph B. Pinder III opened public comment

There being no one wishing to speak, Mayor Pinder closed public comment.

ACTION:	Motion to approve item X.A. by Mark Gregg, second by Henry Rosenthal; Motion passed with a 5:0 vote
AYES:	Mark Gregg, Elizabeth Jolin, Henry Rosenthal, Sharon Mahoney, Joseph B. Pinder III
NAYS:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

B. Authorization for the Village Manager to Enter into a Letter of Intent for the Purchase of a 2025 Freightliner M2 Plus Cab and Chassis - **TAB 10** (Terry Abel, Fire Chief)

Fire Chief Terry Abel noted the request was for permission for a Letter of Intent to authorize the Village Manager to purchase a cab and chassis. The Village has to get the letter in by May 15 to have work begin this year. He noted they were reusing the frame to reduce expenses. He also reported that they had a verbal agreement with Key Largo and Marathon in case they need a truck in case of an emergency.

ACTION:	Motion to approve item X.B. by Henry Rosenthal second by Mark Gregg; Motion passed with a 5:0 vote
AYES:	Mark Gregg, Elizabeth Jolin, Henry Rosenthal, Sharon Mahoney, Joseph B. Pinder III
NAYS:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

XI. SUPPLEMENTARY REPORTS

A. After Action Report

There was no comment on the report.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Council Member Henry Rosenthal moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:57 p.m.