



Fort Myers Beach Management & Planning Session

**Council Chambers
2525 Estero Blvd.
Fort Myers Beach, FL 33931**

Minutes

Thursday, November 17, 2022

9:00 AM

ORDER OF BUSINESS

FINAL

I. CALL TO ORDER

Members present: Mayor Allers, Vice Mayor Atterholt, Council Member King, Council Member Veatch and Council Member Woodson.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

A. Town Manager Candidates

Potential Interim Manager Candidates

Mayor Allers noted that the candidates had previously met with the Town Council.

Chris Holley introduced himself and described his past experiences as a Town Manager in Florida.

Council Member Veatch clarified that Mr. Holley's company (H2 Solutions), would be considered the interim manager and would charge \$20,000.00 per month for six months.

Keith Wilkins, Mr. Holley's business partner, reviewed his background and previous positions in Florida. He stated that he would be available after January 1, 2023, and Mr. Holley would be available in the weeks before. Mayor Allers stated that he spoke to John Ward, who was the Clay County Emergency Manager and he would be in town from Sunday through the 6th. He would be available to help advise the town at no charge.

Vice Mayor Atterholt clarified that Mr. Ward would work under the supervision of the interim town manager.

Consensus was reached to direct staff to continue working on the contract agreement with Mr. Wilkins and Mr. Holley and bring it back to the meeting on Monday.

Mayor Allers described the web EOC, which was included in the information packet. Danielle provided more details and Town Attorney Herin, Jr. provided an example of how the web EOC worked.

Council Member Woodson questioned whether the Council should contact Danielle directly. Danielle replied that it depended on the resources and explained how the process worked. She noted that the state was pulling back a lot of its resources. Town Attorney Herin, Jr. stated that the Council had to work through the interim manager as required under the town's charter and state law.

B. WebEOC

Resource requests in response to Hurricane Ian

Vice Mayor Atterholt commented that he spoke to Captain Tim Lalor regarding changing the curfew to 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Captain Lalor indicated there would be no adverse public safety implications.

Council Member Veach expressed concerns regarding public safety. Vice Mayor Atterholt suggested that the interim town manager contact the sheriff's office to ensure the curfew change would be uniformly accepted. Consensus was reached that Interim Town Manager Steele would follow up with the Lee County Sheriff's Department regarding the curfew in Bonita Springs to ensure it would not conflict with the town's curfew change. The Council agreed with the curfew change if it did not conflict.

Council Member Veach brought up connecting to the internet. Mayor Allers commented that he would get clarification regarding Comcast and provide the information to the Town Clerk for dissemination to the public. Council Member Veach brought up insurance on Town Hall and FEMA and questioned the status of converting the Bay Oaks gym to a temporary Town Hall. He assumed that the conversion fell under the 50% rule. Mayor Allers replied that bids went out and were due by December 8, 2022. Once bids were received and one was approved, Town Hall could be inside the building in 90 days. He did not know how long the trailer that staff was using would be available, but he expected to have information within the next day or two. Council Member Woodson questioned whether the debris would be moved from the Bay Oaks site. Mayor Allers responded that the large debris pile would be ongoing until all the debris was picked up, but he would get more information. Council Member Woodson questioned whether other town hall locations were mentioned. Mayor Allers noted that places off the island were discussed. Town Attorney Herin, Jr. pointed out that the Council was required to meet on the island with a physical quorum unless the FDEM (Florida Division of Emergency Management) emergency order was extended.

Mayor Allers indicated that discussions were ongoing concerning having a staff member available to answer permitting questions at Beach Baptist since the DRC was returning to that location.

Council Member Veach verified that property owners must carry flood insurance if they accept FEMA money. He contacted FEMA to find out whether property owners who accepted the funds could return them but had not heard back. Mayor Allers indicated that the DRC at Beach Baptist could answer questions.

Council Member Woodson questioned cleaning up the beach. Council Member Veach replied that private property owners had to get the right of entry resolved before state resources could enter their property to remove the trash. Council Member Woodson questioned whether condos and businesses with cleanup contracts could move forward. Mayor Allers responded that private property owners could clean their property at their own cost. Town Attorney Herin, Jr. cautioned that beach property owners should contact town staff before removing debris from the beach due to state issues. Mayor Allers reassured property owners that the request for insurance information on landebriscleanup.com was not a scam. He encouraged owners to complete the form to get the debris cleaned up faster. He indicated that some large items were partially hidden under the sand and could be dangerous. Town Attorney Herin, Jr. stated that state contractors were working to clean up the canals and beach. Mayor Allers mentioned that the water was unsafe to let professionals do their job on the beach and waterways. Town Attorney Herin, Jr. indicated that the form on the website was called "a right of entry form" and was a document that property owners had to fill out if they wanted the state to remove debris. Council Member Woodson suggested that permits for food trucks include a requirement to supply portable restrooms for their use. Mayor Allers directed Council Member Woodson to discuss the item with the interim town manager.

Mayor Allers questioned scheduling future meetings. Council Member Woodson thought meetings should continue weekly until December 19, 2022. She suggested going back to regularly scheduled meetings in January. Vice Mayor Atterholt confirmed that the schedule would be November 21 and 28, December 5, M&P on the 12th and the last regular meeting on December 19. Council Member Woodson suggested that December 12 be the last meeting before the holidays. Council Member Veach pointed out that three meetings were already scheduled in December and he would not be available for a couple of meetings. He supported sticking to the regular schedule in December. Council Member King noted that he had a conflict on December 19 and was out of town from January 16-21, 2023 but he might be able to rearrange his schedule in January.

Vice Mayor Atterholt suggested that Council meetings be scheduled on Monday, November 21, 2022, at 9:00 a.m., Monday, November 28, 2022, at 9:00 a.m., Monday, December 5, 2022, at 9:00 a.m., M&P on Monday, December 12, 2022, at 9:00 a.m., Monday, January 9, 2023, at 9:00 a.m., M&P on Thursday, January 12, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. and January 23, 2023, at 9:00 a.m.

Council Member King questioned the status of the clean sand piles on the north end. Mayor Allers replied that he would get an update soon.

- C. FMB Restoration
Not addressed due to time constraints.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Council Member Veach moved to adjourn; second by Council Member King.
Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:25 a.m.

Minutes adopted, January 9, 2023; Motion by Council Member King and seconded by Council Member Veach. Passed 5-0.



Amy Baker, Town Clerk