

**REGULAR TOWN COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 9, 2024**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Pugh at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Town Clerk Avery led the roll call, which was answered by the following:

Mayor Pugh	Present
Vice Mayor Coz	Present
Commissioner Aijala Jr.	Present
Commissioner Cassidy	Present
Commissioner Hutchins	Present

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Pugh led the pledge of allegiance.

ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, MODIFICATIONS, AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Town Manager Ladner requested that the Selection of Lobbyist be added to the consent agenda as item #9a.

Commissioner Cassidy moved to approve the agenda as amended; seconded by Vice Mayor Coz. Motion carried 5-0. (1:46)

PRESENTATIONS & PROCLAMATIONS

1. Palm Beach County School Board Member Erica Whitfield – State of Education Report

Town Clerk Avery introduced Palm Beach County School Board Member Erica Whitfield.

Ms. Whitfield gave an update on school grades, attendance, and the referendum sales tax.

The Commission asked questions regarding the number of schools, classroom size, sales tax fund, and yearly budget and she answered their questions. Ms. Whitfield advised that if they had any questions or concerns, to please contact her.

2. Chief McClure to Present Newly Promoted Lt. Chobin and Congratulate Ofc. Pilon.

Chief McClure presented and congratulated the newly promoted LT. Chobin, and he announced that Officer Ramirez was promoted to Sergeant. He also announced new Reserve Officer Curtis Kravel. Chief McClure commended Officer Pilon and awarded him the life-saving award for saving the life of an unconscious individual on July 30th.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

REGULAR TOWN COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 9, 2024

3. The meeting schedule for the next meeting is as follows: Special Town Commission Meeting for the Final Budget Hearing on Tuesday, September 17, 2024, at 6:00 pm; Regular Town Commission Meeting on Monday, October 7, 2024, at 6:00 pm; Community Standards Hearing on Tuesday, October 1, 2024, at 10:00 am; Planning & Zoning Meeting on Tuesday, September 17 at 9:00 am; Board of Adjustment Meeting has been canceled; All meetings are held in the Commission Chambers at the Town Hall.
4. The Annual Municipal Election will be held on March 11, 2025. There is one Town Commission seat open. Candidate filing dates run from November 4, 2024, at Noon through November 15, 2024, at Noon in the Town Clerk's Office. / La Elección Municipal Anual se llevará a cabo el 11 de marzo de 2025. Hay un puesto vacante en la Comisión Municipal. Las fechas de presentación de candidatos van desde el 4 de noviembre de 2024 al mediodía hasta el 15 de noviembre de 2024 al mediodía en la Oficina del Secretario Municipal.
5. Residents who wish to sign up to receive important Town notifications and news through Civic Ready should sign up on the Town's website or call Town Hall for assistance.

Town Clerk Avery read the announcements into the record.

Town Manager Ladner announced that FEMA is holding a Flood Map Outreach meeting at the Boynton Beach Police Department Community Room this Wednesday from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT - (3-minute individual limit)

Mayor Pugh opened the floor for public comment.

The following spoke: Betty Bingham, Terry Brown, Victor Martel, Joe Belmonte, and Town Clerk Avery read a letter into the record from Melanie and Robert Rodriguez.

Mayor Pugh closed the floor for public comment.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

6. Adopt Minutes of the Special Town Commission Meeting and Budget Workshop of July 25, 2024.
7. Adopt Minutes of the Special Town Commission Budget Workshop Meeting of August 5, 2024.
8. Adopt Minutes of the Regular Town Commission Meeting of August 5, 2024.
9. July Revenue and Expenditure Report
- 9a. Selection of Lobbyist (**ADDED TO AGENDA**)

Vice Mayor Coz moved to approve the Consent Agenda as amended; seconded by Commissioner Cassidy. Motion carried 5-0. (39:02)

PUBLIC HEARING ON THE FY25 BUDGET

10. a. Presentation of the Tentative Budget & Proposed Millage Rate for FY 2024/2025

REGULAR TOWN COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 9, 2024

Town Manager Ladner presented and reviewed the budget as provided in the packet.

b. Announce the Town of Ocean Ridge Computed Millage Rate is Higher Than the Rolled Back Rate of 4.9271 by 10 %. The millage to be levied is 5.400.

Town Manager Ladner announced that the computed millage rate was higher than the rolled-back rate of 4.9271 by 10% and that the millage rate to be levied is 5.400.

c. Public Comment & Comments from Commissioners

Mayor Pugh opened the floor for public comment. The following spoke: Nick Arsali, Eva Asner, and Terry Brown. Mayor Pugh closed the floor for public comment.

d. Resolution No. 2024-08: Adoption of Tentative Millage Rate for Fiscal Year 2024/2025

Town Clerk Avery read the resolution by title into the record.

Mayor Pugh opened the floor for public comment and there were no comments. Mayor Pugh closed the floor for public comment.

Vice Mayor Coz moved to approve Resolution 2024-08: Adoption of Tentative Budget for Fiscal Year 2024/2025; seconded by Commissioner Aijala. Motion carried 5-0. (47:23)

(Town Clerk's Note: Resolution passed at 6:47 p.m.)

e. Resolution No. 2024-09: Adoption of Tentative Budget for Fiscal Year 2024/2025

Town Clerk Avery read the resolution by title into the record.

Mayor Pugh opened the floor for public comment and there were no comments. Mayor Pugh closed the floor for public comment.

Vice Mayor Coz moved to approve Resolution 2024-09: Adoption of Tentative Budget for Fiscal Year 2024/2025; seconded by Commissioner Cassidy. Motion carried 5-0. (48:04)

(Town Clerk's Note: Resolution passed at 6:48 p.m.)

f. Announce the second/final hearing on the FY 2024/2025 Budget will be held at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, September 17, 2024.

Mayor Pugh announced the final hearing date for the 2024/2025 Budget on Tuesday, September 17, 2024.

Mayor Pugh closed the Public Budget Hearing.

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

REGULAR TOWN COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 9, 2024

11. Discussion of the Appointment of Two Planning & Zoning Commission Positions

Town Manager Ladner explained the item.

There was a discussion on moving one alternate member up to the full-member position and advertising the two positions.

Mayor Pugh opened the floor for public comment. Hearing none, he closed the floor for public comment.

Commissioner Hutchins moved to move Alternate Member Sigety up to the full member position of the Planning & Zoning Commission; seconded by Commissioner Cassidy. Motion carried 5-0. (50:49)

The Commission decided that they would appoint two new Alternate Members at the November regular meeting.

12. Approval of Planning & Zoning Development Order for 21 Hudson Ave.

Harry Rauch, owner of the property, requested a six-month extension for his Development Order expiring in November.

Commissioner Cassidy noted that his property has been listed since June as “shovel ready with approved site plans”. The Commission had concerns about plans changing and may not meet FEMA requirements.

Town Attorney Goddeau provided background information on the item. She stated that the Development Order was for eighteen (18) months and could be extended an additional six (6) months with Commission approval.

Mayor Pugh opened the floor for public comment. Hearing none, he closed the floor for public comment.

Vice Mayor Coz moved to move to deny the 6-month extension request for 21 Hudson Avenue; seconded by Commissioner Cassidy. Motion carried 5-0. (1:00)

13. Resolution 2024-10: Resolution of the Town Commission of the Town of Ocean Ridge, of Palm Beach County, Florida, Adopting Budget Amendments For the Fiscal Year Beginning October 1, 2023, and Ending September 30, 2024, Providing for an Effective Date

Mayor Pugh read the Resolution into the record by title only.

Town Manager Ladner explained the item.

Mayor Pugh opened the floor for public comment. Hearing none, he closed the floor for public comment.

**REGULAR TOWN COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 9, 2024**

Commissioner Cassidy moved to move to adopt Resolution 2024-10 Avenue; seconded by Vice Mayor Coz. Motion carried 5-0. (1:02)

STAFF & COMMITTEE REPORTS

14. Town Manager

Town Manager Ladner read her report into the record. She announced that she was having surgery and would be working remotely starting September 23 through the first week in October.

15. Town Attorney

Town Attorney Goddeau provided a response to Commissioner Hutchins regarding new developments saying they could voluntarily make contributions to the School District, but it is not a requirement.

16. Police Chief

Chief McClure advised that his report was included in the meeting packet. He announced that October 26, 2024, is National Prescription Drug Take Back Day. He also mentioned that phone and internet frauds have increased, please notify the Police Department if you suspect something suspicious.

Commissioner Cassidy mentioned that her friend was a victim of a fraud and she commended Sergeant Emeri and Officer Pilon for their professionalism and assistance.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting Adjourned at 7:11 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Deputy Town Clerk Pinder and adopted by the Town Commission on October 7, 2024.

Geoff Pugh, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kelly Avery, Town Clerk

