

**REGULAR TOWN COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 3, 2025**

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 (via phone)
Commissioner Hutchins	Present

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Pugh led the pledge of allegiance.

ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, MODIFICATIONS, AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Vice Mayor Coz requested to add beach patrol as #18 under Commissioner Comments. Mayor Pugh requested to provide an update on the Town Manager evaluation. Town Manager Ladner requested to add FDOT after the proclamations.

Vice Mayor Coz moved to approve the agenda as amended; seconded by Commissioner Aijala. Motion carried 5-0. (1:48)

PRESENTATIONS & PROCLAMATIONS

1. Let's Move Palm Beach County Month
2. Government Finance Professionals' Week March 17-21, 2025

Town Clerk Avery read the proclamations into the record.

2a. FDOT (*Added to Agenda*)

Silvana Ojeda, Community Outreach Specialist, presented a slide presentation providing details regarding the State Road (SR) 804/East Ocean Avenue Resurfacing Project.

Mayor Pugh expressed his concern regarding milling, re-paving during King Tide, and working after hours. Project Administrator Harry and Construction Project Manager Miller addressed his concerns. Further discussion ensued regarding notification informing the residents.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

3. The meeting schedule for next month is as follows: Regular Town Commission Meeting on Monday, April 7, 2025, at 6:00 PM; Community Standards Hearing on Tuesday, March 4, 2025 at 10:00 am; Planning & Zoning Meeting on Tuesday, March 18 at 9:00 am; Board of Adjustment Meeting (tentatively) on Wednesday, March 19 at 9:00 am; All meetings are held in the Commission Chambers at the Town Hall.

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4. Just a reminder that there will be no Municipal Election in March, as only one candidate qualified to fill one Town Commission seat. The candidate that qualified is Steve Coz. Commissioner Coz will be sworn into office at the Town Commission Meeting on April 7, 2025.
5. The Town Commission will consider appointments to the following Board positions at the May 5, 2025, Town Commission meeting: Board of Adjustment – one regular member for a three-year term and two alternate members for three-year terms; and Planning & Zoning Commission – two alternate members for three-year Terms. Interested residents must be registered to vote in Ocean Ridge, available for the monthly meetings, and submit a resume and letter of interest to the Town Clerk by the deadline of April 23rd at 3:00 p.m.
6. The Town will be providing free shredding services to residents of Ocean Ridge and Briny Breezes on Saturday, April 5th from 9 a.m. until Noon in the back parking lot at Town Hall. For more information regarding this event, please visit the Town's Website.
7. 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.

Police Chief McClure introduced the new hires, Police Officer Matthew Power, Dispatcher Jessica Murdoch, and Dispatcher Kendall Mirrione.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Pugh opened the floor for public comment.

The following spoke: Sallie Howell, Terry Brown, Caroyln Cassidy, Betty Bingham, Carol Besler, Janet Schijns, Joe Belmonte, Stella Kolb, Lucy Brown, and Roy Schijns

Mayor Pugh closed the floor for public comment.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

8. Adopt Minutes of the February 3, 2025, Regular Town Commission Meeting.
9. Acceptance of the Annual Infrastructure Surtax Report for 2024
10. Designation of Voting Delegate and Alternates to Palm Beach County League of Cities.
11. Feb 2025 Rev and Exp report

Vice Mayor Coz moved to approve the Consent Agenda; seconded by Commission Hutchins. Motion carried 5-0. (45:27)

PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS

12. Approval of Ordinance 2025-01 on First Reading: An Ordinance Of The Town Of Ocean Ridge, Florida, Amending The Comprehensive Plan Of The Town Of Ocean Ridge With The 2025 Evaluation And Appraisal Review (EAR) Based Amendments;

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Providing For Recitals, Adoption, Conflicts, Repeal, Severability, Applicability,
Transmittal, And An Effective Date

Town Planner O’Gorman provided a brief update on the item.

Jim Fleischman reviewed the proposed amendments and major revisions in detail.

Mayor Pugh opened the floor for public comment.

Kristine de Haseth – commented on the housing element.

Carol Besler – suggested circumventing the element on family licenses, daycare centers, or any business.

There was a consensus to remove 1.4 of the housing elements.

Terry Brown – commented on medium and high density along A1A.

Janet Schijns – suggested that the town consult with a specialist.

Mayor Pugh closed the floor for public comment.

There was a discussion regarding modular homes. Further discussion ensued regarding removing and correcting existing language from the Comp plan. Commissioner Cassidy asked questions about correcting or removing existing language from certain sections of the Comp Plan.

Town Clerk Avery read the ordinance into the record by title only.

Vice Mayor Coz moved to adopt Ordinance 2025-01 as amended on first reading; seconded by Commission Hutchins. Motion carried 5-0. (1:58)

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

13. Discussion Regarding obtaining Easements for Storm Drains

Town Manager Ladner explained the item.

Mayor Pugh opened the floor for public comment and there was none.

There was a consensus to allow the Town Manager to negotiate a deal and bring the item back to the Commission.

14. Resolution 2025-05: Approval of Re-plat of McCormick Mile Replat No.1 for 7, 8 & 9 Sabal Island Dr.

Town Attorney Goddeau explained the item.

Mayor Pugh opened the floor for public comment.

Kristine de Haseth – stated that it is great that the town is moving in the right direction.

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Mayor Pugh closed the floor for public comment.

Commissioner Aijala moved to adopt Resolution 2025-05; seconded by Vice Mayor Coz. Motion carried 5-0. (2:07)

STAFF & COMMITTEE REPORTS

15. Town Manager

Town Manager Ladner stated that her report was included in the meeting package. She informed everyone that Florida Power and Light (FPL) will begin the underground infrastructure at the north end of the town including the Northern Islands and North Ocean Blvd at no cost. She stated that the contractors will notify the residents at a future time/date in 2025.

Mayor Pugh opened the floor for public comment.

The following spoke: Ken Kaleel and Terry Brown

Mayor Pugh closed the floor for public comment.

16. Town Attorney

Attorney Goddeau provided an update regarding receiving the Town Manager's evaluation from the Commission.

Mayor Pugh asked for an update regarding the fine accruing at the property address of 113 Island Drive S. Town Clerk Avery informed him that she mailed a certified letter to the owners and the builder the past week.

Richard Zizzo – spoke about the builder of the property.

17. Police Chief

Chief McClure advised that his report was included in the meeting package. He announced that there is the “Drug Take Back Program” until April 26th. He also mentioned that the CPR class held previously in January was remarkably successful.

TOWN COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Vice Mayor Coz mentioned that Spring Break is approaching which brings large crowds and requested that the Police Department bring back the ATV to patrol now until Easter. He also mentioned that juveniles slashed chairs on the beach. Chief McClure responded to his concern. There was a discussion regarding the violation of dogs on the beach.

There was a consensus to increase the first violation to One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00)

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Town Attorney Goddeau informed the Commission that the ordinance needs to be updated to reflect the increase. Mayor Pugh requested that the ordinance be brought to the next meeting.

Stella Kolb – expressed her concern regarding dogs on the beach.

Lucy Brown – also expressed her concern regarding dogs on the beach.

There was a consensus to place a police officer on patrol at the beach for the next budget year.

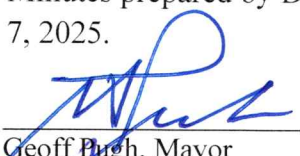
There was further discussion regarding assigning a police officer to patrol the beach.

Stella Kolb – emphasized that the issue is not about dogs, it is about safety.

ADJOURNMENT

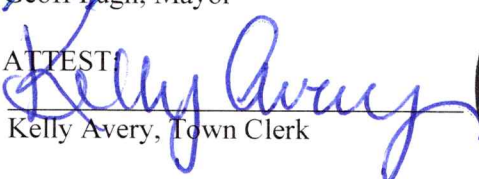
Meeting Adjourned at 8:41 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Deputy Town Clerk Pinder and adopted by the Town Commission on April 7, 2025.



Geoff Pugh, Mayor

ATTEST



Kelly Avery, Town Clerk

