

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF THE WELLINGTON VILLAGE COUNCIL

Wellington Village Hall
12300 Forest Hill Blvd
Wellington, FL 33414

Tuesday, September 5, 2023
7:00 p.m.

Pursuant to the foregoing notice, a Regular Meeting of the Wellington Council was held on Tuesday, September 5, 2023, commencing at 7:00 p.m. at Wellington Village Hall, 12300 Forest Hill Boulevard, Wellington, FL 33414.

Council Members present: Anne Gerwig, Mayor; Michael Napoleone, Vice Mayor; John T. McGovern, Councilman; Michael Drahos, Councilman; and Tanya Siskind, Councilwoman.

Advisors to the Council: Jim Barnes, Manager; Laurie Cohen, Attorney; Tanya Quickel, Deputy Village Manager; Ed De La Vega, Assistant Village Manager; and Chevelle D. Addie, Village Clerk.

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Mayor Gerwig called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Two girls from the audience led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **INVOCATION** – Deacon Al Payne, St. Therese de Lisieux Catholic Church, delivered the invocation.

4. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Ms. Cohen stated based on discussion at the August 31, 2023 Agenda Review meeting, there is a “walk on” item.

Mr. Barnes indicated staff recommended approval of the Agenda as amended.

1. Add Item #23-6103, Dog Park and 130 Violations Lien Releases, to the Regular Agenda as Item 8A.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Napoleone, seconded by Councilman McGovern, and unanimously passed (5-0), to approve the Agenda as amended.

5. **PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS**

- A. **23-5969** PRESENTATION OF 2023 WELLINGTON TOP COP AND TOP FIREFIGHTER AWARDS

Mr. Barnes introduced this item.

Nicole Coates, Director of Emergency Management, stated each year the Village Council, through the Public Safety Committee, recognizes the Top Cop and Top Firefighter. She recognized the Public Safety Committee members in attendance: Vice Chair Jacqueline

Hutman, Chief Michael Arena, Dr. Brad Johnson and John Archambo.

Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office (PBSO) Captain Nichole Addazio and District Chief Amanda Vomero, Palm Beach County Fire Rescue (PBCFR), attended the meeting to make the presentations.

Captain Addazio provided background information regarding Detective Timothy Barbusio and stated he is the 2023 Top Cop.

Detective Barbusio thanked Captain Addazio, Lieutenant Humphrey, Sergeant Donovan and the Village Council. He gave brief comments regarding his career. Detective Barbusio also acknowledged and thanked his wife and sons.

The Village Council commended PBSO District 8 and congratulated PBSO Detective Barbusio on winning the award, his career, work and legacy. Council stated they are glad to have Detective Barbusio in Wellington.

District Chief Vomero provided brief comments. She introduced Retired Battalion Chief Kenny Woolridge who provided background information regarding Captain Cecilia Eaton and stated she is the 2023 Top Firefighter.

Captain Eaton thanked Council for the recognition and recognized her team at PBCFR Station 30.

Council commended and congratulated PBCFR Captain Eaton on winning the award and for setting the example, her compassion and excellence in the performance of her duties.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. 23-6065** MINUTES OF THE REGULAR WELLINGTON COUNCIL MEETING OF AUGUST 8, 2023
- B. 23-5724** AUTHORIZATION TO AWARD A CONTRACT FOR THE PURCHASE AND DELIVERY OF TWO DIESEL GENERATORS
- C. 23-5730** AUTHORIZATION TO AWARD MULTIPLE CONTRACTS FOR UTILITY PROCESS CONTROL ANNUAL MAINTENANCE
- D. 23-5820** AGREEMENTS WITH FLORIDA POWER AND LIGHT COMPANY, CROWN CASTLE FIBER LLC AND HOTWIRE COMMUNICATIONS, LTD., TO PROVIDE OVERHEAD TO UNDERGROUNDING CONVERSION OF EXISTING FACILITIES
- E. 23-6076** RESOLUTION NO. R2023-41 (THE LOCAL HOUSING ASSISTANCE PLAN FISCAL YEAR 2022/2023 - 2024/2025)
A RESOLUTION OF WELLINGTON, FLORIDA'S COUNCIL APPROVING AND ADOPTING AN AMENDMENT TO THE FISCAL YEAR 2022/2023 - 2024/2025 LOCAL HOUSING ASSISTANCE PLAN AS REQUIRED BY THE STATE HOUSING INITIATIVES PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM ACT, SUBSECTIONS 420.907-420.9079, FLORIDA STATUTES; AND RULE CHAPTER 67-37, FLORIDA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE; AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE VILLAGE MANAGER TO EXECUTE ANY NECESSARY DOCUMENTS AND CERTIFICATIONS NEEDED BY THE STATE; AUTHORIZING

THE SUBMISSION OF THE LOCAL HOUSING ASSISTANCE PLAN FOR REVIEW AND APPROVAL BY THE FLORIDA HOUSING FINANCE CORPORATION; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

- F. **23-6077** RESOLUTION NO. R2023-56 (2023 ANNUAL HOUSING INCENTIVES REPORT)
- A RESOLUTION OF WELLINGTON, FLORIDA'S COUNCIL, APPROVING THE 2023 AFFORDABLE HOUSING ADVISORY COMMITTEE (AHAC) HOUSING INCENTIVES REPORT AS REQUIRED BY THE STATE HOUSING INITIATIVES PARTNERSHIP ACT, SUBSECTION 420.9076, OF THE FLORIDA STATUTES; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
- G. **23-5885** RESOLUTION NO. R2023-54 (PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE VILLAGE OF WELLINGTON LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES PLAN (LESP) FOR FY23)
- A RESOLUTION OF WELLINGTON, FLORIDA'S COUNCIL APPROVING THE LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES PLAN (LESP) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
- H. **23-5886** RESOLUTION NO. R2023-53 (PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE DISTRICT 8 WELLINGTON FY2024 BUDGET AND CONTRACT)
- A RESOLUTION OF WELLINGTON, FLORIDA'S COUNCIL APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CLERK TO EXECUTE THE LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH THE PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES FOR FY 2024; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
- I. **23-6005** RESOLUTION NO. R2023-55 (DROWNING PREVENTION COALITION "BUCKS" CERTIFICATE PROGRAM)
- A RESOLUTION OF WELLINGTON, FLORIDA'S COUNCIL APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CLERK TO EXECUTE AN INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH THE DROWNING PREVENTION COALITION OF PALM BEACH COUNTY TO PROVIDE FOR VOUCHERS FOR FREE SWIMMING LESSONS UNDER THE "BUCK" PROGRAM FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mr. Barnes stated there were no comment cards on the Consent Agenda.

Mr. Barnes indicated staff recommended approval of the Consent Agenda as presented.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Napoleone, seconded by Councilman Drahos, and unanimously passed (5-0), to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

7. PUBLIC HEARINGS

- A. 23-6029** RESOLUTION NO. AC2023-05 (ADOPTION OF RATES AND RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE BUDGET FOR THE WATER AND WASTEWATER UTILITY BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023/2024)

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE ACME IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT ADOPTING THE WATER AND WASTEWATER UTILITY BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING OCTOBER 1, 2023, AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2024; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mr. Barnes introduced this item.

Ms. Quickel reviewed the recommended rate adjustments based on the Utility Rate Study 2023 Update. In addition, she showed charts regarding revenues to fund capital projects. The proposed Utility Budget is \$28.2 million. Ms. Quickel discussed the primary expenditure changes and reviewed the Utility Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan. She showed Council a graphic of utility bill comparisons between municipalities. Ms. Quickel highlighted the FY 2024 Utility Budget Objectives.

The Village Council made inquiries and provided comments regarding the Utility Budget.

Ms. Quickel responded to Council's questions.

The Village Council commended Ms. Quickel and her team on the budget.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Napoleone, seconded by Councilwoman Siskind, and unanimously passed (5-0) to approve Resolution No. AC2023-05 (Adoption of Rates and Resolution Adopting the Budget for the Water and Wastewater Utility Budget for Fiscal Year 2023/2024).

- B. 23-5880** FIRST PUBLIC HEARING FOR PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2023/2024 MILLAGE RATE, BUDGET AND ADOPTION OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2023/2024 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Ms. Quickel introduced and presented this item.

Ms. Quickel indicated this is the first Public Hearing on the tentative millage and budget adoption for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 budget.

Ms. Quickel stated the FY 2024 Proposed Budget is \$137.7 million, an increase of \$9 million more than the current fiscal year budget. This is a revised budget from the previously presented proposed FY 2024 budget. She indicated that since the July presentation, staff adjusted the proposed FY 2024 budget and discussed the major changes. Ms. Quickel explained the remaining increases to the budget due to rising costs of facility and road maintenance, contract costs, personnel, grant funding, special events and recreation programming. She stated the proposed FY 2024 millage rate is 2.47 mills which has not changed from the current fiscal year. Ms. Quickel highlighted the proposed rates and assessments. She discussed the budget influences – revenues. She stated there is a range of tax impacts on various assessed values for both homesteaded and non-homesteaded properties. Therefore, while the millage rate is unchanged, homeowners may see an increase in their taxes if their property value increases. She referenced TRIM values and sample properties. Ms. Quickel discussed the change in Wellington values for actual properties from FY 2022 to FY 2023. She informed Council that staff remains committed to moving forward and it has been another extraordinary year for Wellington and Wellington is sustainable and stable. She explained that 18% of the total tax bill

goes to Wellington. Ms. Quickel discussed the General Fund and the FY 2024 Revenue Budget and Expenditure Budget – All Funds. In addition, she provided the FY 2024 tentative budget adoption highlights. Ms. Quickel spoke about the expenditure budget influences and the FY 2023-2024 Budget Objectives.

Ms. Quickel referenced the Budget Calendar and stated the second Public Hearing and final adoption will be held at the September 20, 2023 Council Meeting. She explained the advertising schedule.

The Village Council made inquiries and provided comments regarding the millage, budget, services, reserves and funds.

Mr. Barnes and Ms. Quickel responded to Council's questions.

The Village Council commended Ms. Quickel and her team on the budget.

Ms. Quickel read the mandatory language into the record.

Public Hearing

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Napoleone, seconded by Councilman McGovern, and unanimously passed (5-0), to open the Public Hearing.

There being no public comments, a motion was made by Councilwoman Siskind, seconded by Vice Mayor Napoleone, and unanimously passed (5-0), to close the Public Hearing.

A motion was made by Councilman McGovern, seconded by Vice Mayor Napoleone, and unanimously passed (5-0) to approve the proposed FY 2024 millage rate, budget and adoption of the Fiscal Year 2023/2024 Capital Improvement Plan on first public hearing.

Vice Mayor Napoleone read a card into the record from someone who did not wish to speak regarding the previous Utility item.

- C. 23-6061** ORDINANCE NO. 2023-12 (AMENDMENTS TO CHAPTERS 1, 2, 3, 9, 11, 20 AND 22 CODE OF ORDINANCES)
- AN ORDINANCE OF WELLINGTON, FLORIDA'S COUNCIL AMENDING THE WELLINGTON CODE OF ORDINANCES, MORE SPECIFICALLY, TEXT AMENDMENTS TO MODIFY CERTAIN PROVISIONS IN CHAPTER 1 (GENERAL PROVISIONS), CHAPTER 2 (ADMINISTRATION), CHAPTER 3 (ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES), CHAPTER 9 (ENVIRONMENT), CHAPTER 11 (MORTGAGED PROPERTY REGISTRATION), CHAPTER 20 (STREETS, SIDEWALKS AND OTHER PLACES), AND CHAPTER 22 (TRAFFIC & VEHICLES) AS CONTAINED HEREIN; TO FACILITATE IMPROVED EFFICIENCY FOR THE CITATION METHOD OF CODE COMPLIANCE; FOR CLARIFICATION OF PROVISIONS BY ADDING, MODIFYING, OR ELIMINATING CONFUSING LANGUAGE, INCLUDING DEFINITIONS; MODIFYING PROVISIONS TO BE CONTEMPORARY OR TO COMPLY WITH CHANGES IN STATE LAW ADOPTED DURING THE 2023 LEGISLATIVE SESSION; PROVIDING A CONFLICTS CLAUSE; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mr. Barnes introduced the item.

Ms. Addie read the Ordinance by title.

Mr. Basehart stated this is the second reading of the ordinance; and there have been no changes since first reading. Ms. Cohen and Mr. Barnes stated staff is looking at options regarding mortgaged property registrations.

Public Hearing

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Napoleone, seconded by Councilwoman Siskind, and unanimously passed (5-0), to open the Public Hearing.

There being no public comments, a motion was made by Vice Mayor Napoleone, seconded by Councilman Drahos, and unanimously passed (5-0), to close the Public Hearing.

A motion was made by Councilman Drahos, seconded by Vice Mayor Napoleone, and unanimously passed (5-0), to approve Ordinance No. 2023-12 (Amendments to Chapters 1, 2, 3, 9, 11, 20, and 22 of Wellington's Code of Ordinances) as presented on second reading.

8. REGULAR AGENDA

- A. 23-6103 DOG PARK AND 130 VIOLATION LIEN RELEASES (THIS ITEM ADDED TO THE AGENDA)**

Ms. Cohen presented this item. She provided background information regarding lien releases.

The Village Council inquired about the releases.

Ms. Cohen responded to Council's questions.

A motion was made by Councilman McGovern, seconded by Councilman Drahos, and unanimously passed (5-0), that in compliance with both the August 24, 2023 Court Order and the May 23, 2023 Court Order, to comply with the terms of those two orders specifically, the Village Council ratifies Tim Stillings, Planning Director, acting on the Village Council's behalf for the purpose of signing the documents and filing them in the public record with Palm Beach County.

9. PUBLIC FORUM

Public Comment:

1. Howard and Tracy Kirkpatrick, Owners of the Florida Rowing Center, spoke regarding youth rowing programs. He stated rowing is the number one scholarship for girls.

The Village Council provided brief comments.

10. ATTORNEY'S REPORT

MS. COHEN: Ms. Cohen presented the following report:

- Ms. Cohen stated she had nothing to report.

11. MANAGER'S REPORT

MR. BARNES: Mr. Barnes presented the following report:

- The next Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 20, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. The Agenda Review Meeting will be held on Monday, September 18, 2023.
- Mr. Barnes stated staff had developed a marketing plan for the promotion of Section 24, Marjory Stoneman Douglas Everglades Habitat expansion. He stated the location is a finalist for the Florida Chapter of the American Planning Association's "Great Places in Florida" Award. He gave brief comments regarding voting for the award.

Councilman McGovern inquired about the schedule for upcoming meetings.

- Mr. Barnes discussed the October meeting dates.

Mayor Gerwig stated she would like to speak with Mr. Barnes.

12. COUNCIL REPORTS

COUNCILMAN MCGOVERN: Councilman McGovern presented the following report:

- Councilman McGovern asked Captain Addazio to speak regarding the incident that occurred.

Captain Addazio provided brief comments about the incident because it is an ongoing investigation. She responded to Council's questions.

COUNCILWOMAN SISKIND: Councilwoman Siskind presented the following report:

- Councilwoman Siskind waived comment.

COUNCILMAN DRAHOS: Councilman Drahos presented the following report:

- Councilman Drahos waived comment.

VICE MAYOR NAPOLEONE: Vice Mayor Napoleone presented the following report:

- Vice Mayor Napoleone stated he hopes to see a lot of residents come out for the 9/11 Ceremony on Monday, September 11, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

MAYOR GERWIG: Mayor Gerwig presented the following report:

- Mayor Gerwig stated she would like to see Kris Riedell recognized.
- Mayor Gerwig stated she was invited to attend a celebration of Onam.
- Mayor Gerwig thanked persons who assisted in north Florida due to the hurricane.

13. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Village Council, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:06 P.M.

Approved:

Anne Gerwig, Mayor

Chevelle D. Addie, Village Clerk