

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF THE WELLINGTON VILLAGE COUNCIL

**Wellington Village Hall
12300 Forest Hill Blvd
Wellington, FL 33414**

**Tuesday, April 24, 2018
7:00 p.m.**

Pursuant to the foregoing notice, a Regular Meeting of the Wellington Council was held on Tuesday, April 24, 2018, commencing at 7:00 p.m. at Wellington Village Hall, 12300 Forest Hill Boulevard, Wellington, FL 33414.

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

Advisors to the Council: Paul Schofield, Manager; Laurie Cohen, Attorney; Jim Barnes, Assistant Manager; Tanya Quickel, Director of Administrative and Financial Services; and Chevelle D. Nubin, Village Clerk.

1. **CALL TO ORDER** - Mayor Gerwig called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Council led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **INVOCATION** - Rabbi Emeritus Stephen Pinsky, Temple Beth Torah, Wellington, delivered the invocation.
4. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Mr. Schofield indicated staff recommended approval of the Agenda as presented.

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

5. PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

- A. **18-1933** PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE (PBSO) DISTRICT 8
WELLINGTON FY17 ANNUAL REPORT PRESENTATION

Mr. Schofield introduced the item.

Captain Rolando Silva stated with him this evening was Lt. Eli Shaivitz and his boss, Major Eric Coleman.

Captain Silva stated he will review some highlights and items of importance from the comprehensive Annual Report that was provided to the Village a few weeks ago. He indicated

the annual Uniform Crime Report (UCR) is produced by the FBI and FDLE. He stated the UCR total crime index for the Village continued to go down over the last five years with the exception of 2017, as it went up 5.2%. He said the good news is that apprehensions and clearance rates continue to increase as well. He noted for every 100 offenses committed PBSO clears about 33%, which has increased from 28.4% in 2016.

Captain Silva explained things like Assault – Domestic Related add to the increase in the index, as that number went up from 87 to 108 in 2017. He said those are issues that happen in people's homes and it is hard to stop or predict. He indicated the arrests for those incidents are up as well.

Captain Silva stated Burglaries to Vehicles went up from 295 to 337 and Stolen Vehicles have increased from 74 to 113. He indicated Burglaries to Residences went down from 107 to 64, which is almost a 40% drop. He said Shoplifting increased by nearly 30%.

Captain Silva explained crimes against the state represent cases whereby there is no human victim. He said they are illegal crimes like possession of drugs and PBSO usually makes arrests on these cases. He indicated the numbers are up from 287 to 335. He said the traffic crime related to crimes against the state basically stayed the same.

Mayor Gerwig asked about the felonies that they went from 18 to 39. Captain Silva stated a person with a felony arrest warrant or who resists an officer with violence becomes a felony. He said a number of things typically constitute a felony and those cases generally happen when PBSO makes arrests.

Comparing 2016 to 2017, Captain Silva indicated property crimes have gone up with stolen vehicles and auto burglaries. He said the number of arrests have gone up as well. He stated there were 78 burglary arrests in 2016 and 105 in 2017. He said there were 15 stolen vehicle arrests in 2016 and 25 in 2017. He stated, as those numbers have gone up, PBSO has cleared out more cases and made more arrests.

Captain Silva stated 2017 was a year of action plans. He said if a problem is identified by either Mr. Schofield or himself, they will get together to look at the trends and develop a plan to deal with it. He stated they will name a plan if it is pretty significant and comprehensive, but a lot of times they just execute it. He said the good thing about these plans is they get good results.

He stated Operation Wild Stallion started in 2017 after the death of the two equestrians and concluded in 2018. He said it was a very effective campaign that made a significant difference. He explained it enhanced the reputation of Wellington as being zero tolerance against DUIs, including the merchants who were serving folks and sometimes minors. He stated they made arrests in those cases, did covert operations, and collaborated with Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco (ABT).

He stated Operation Bump was done in early 2017 as a traffic initiative where PBSO strategically placed the signal boards in different areas to slow people down. He said they also effectively positioned decoy cars and did covert traffic initiatives, as their numbers are up on traffic enforcement. He thought this contributed to the decrease in the 2017 crash rate compared to 2016. He noted that was notwithstanding all of the distracted driving, the extra population during the season, etc.

He stated Operation Coqui was when some of the PBSO deputies went to Puerto Rico to help the officers in Puerto Rico. Captain Silva thanked the Council for supporting this operation and for coming out to their Jeep Show. He indicated the deputies delivered about \$80,000 in relief money to the families of law enforcement who were adversely affected by Hurricane Maria.

Captain Silva indicated on 23 robberies, PBSO made 10 arrests and cleared half of the cases. He mentioned the Palm Beach Post did an article on robberies that focused on the West Palm Beach Police Department and how their clearance rate was within the single digits. He said their officers could not make apprehensions. He stated the end of the article talked about how Wellington had the highest clearance rate, 43%, in the county. He said PBSO cleared 25% of the burglaries. He indicated the national average for clearance rates on property crimes in 2016, including burglaries, was in the low teens at 13.1%. He stated PBSO's clearance rate for stolen vehicles is 22%, which is above the national average.

Captain Silva stated last summer, a young lady was robbed and injured by a stranger who came to a bank. He said he and Mr. Schofield got together and talked about where to allocate their resources and what strategies to employ. He stated they went to the business plazas to talk to the different business owners about how they could be safer. He said, as a result, the robber, Mr. Franco, decided to do robberies in the neighboring plaza. He stated because of PBSO's laser focus efforts, they saw the robbery go down. He said they chased him as he got into the car and fled. He stated they were able to apprehend him because all of the officers were close by. He said they identified the problem, employed the strategies, and had good results.

Captain Silva explained people who are leaving their belongings in their cars and leaving their doors unlocked are undermining PBSO's ability to keep Wellington safe. He showed Council video of what happened in the Palm Beach Polo Club at night when people were sleeping. He stated a group of sophisticated guys in stolen cars came up from Broward County. He said they went around to see which car doors were unlocked. If the car was locked, they moved on to another one. But, unfortunately, they found several cars unlocked. Captain Silva stated folks are making it way too easy and making Wellington an appealing place for people to come from different areas inside and outside the county. He said they come here because they know people typically leave their doors unlocked.

Captain Silva stated the Village has a lot of cameras and a lot of footage, but it is hard to identify. Mayor Gerwig thought the people inside the gated communities have a false sense of security.

Mayor Gerwig asked how these guys got into the Palm Beach Polo Club. Captain Silva stated they have had multiple meetings with the Polo Club security and management to figure out what was going on. He said the Polo Club has made some changes and they are working with PBSO to possibly hire some police officers or deputy sheriffs to work there fulltime.

Captain Silva stated PBSO has intelligence video and these guys are getting paid thousands of dollars for every car they steal. He said PBSO has followed and chased these guys down into Broward and have caught some of them. He stated they are working with the South Florida Task Force on it. He said he wanted Council to see what PBSO is up against.

Captain Silva stated it would help if people secured their belongings, hid them or put them away, and locked their doors. He advised not leaving key FOBs in an unsecured car, as it invites crime and criminals like this to come to the Village. He stated PBSO has been working

hard, as they did a public service announcement. He said just last month, the community police deputies went to sixty different residences in Sugar Pond Manor to tell them not to leave their cars and doors unlocked, because they are having a problem with people are coming in and breaking into cars. He stated PBSO is doing everything they can to get the message out.

Councilman Napoleone stated this issue was raised last year when they started Operation Vigilance to decrease the number of car thefts and burglaries, but they have gone up by 40%. He asked why the message for people to lock their cars was not getting out to them.

Captain Silva stated PBSO has done the walks and talks, has passed out magnets, has provided messaging on the Wellington TV channel, etc., to get the word out. He thought, at the end of the day, some folks just feel very safe. He mentioned that someone in the Polo Club left their keys in their unlocked car and it was stolen. He said they did the same thing the following week and their car was stolen again.

Councilman Napoleone stated the video from the Polo Club shows a lot of cars entering a gated community that they should not have been able to get into in the first place. He thought that was a failure at the gate level. Captain Silva stated the management at the Polo Club is aware of that and they have made some changes to their security.

Mayor Gerwig indicated in another community they drove through an unmanned gate using a stolen vehicle. She said no place is completely safe and no one should leave their car doors or front door unlocked.

Captain Silva stated people should lock their car doors and keep their keys with them. He said if people come to victimize the Village and do not have a target, they will move on.

Mayor Gerwig thought they needed to have more cameras. Councilman Napoleone stated the video camera did not stop this crime. Mayor Gerwig said the video does not stop the crime, but it helps track them down and the closure rate. Captain Silva stated it helps a bit, as the bad guys cover their faces because they know they are being watched.

Captain Silva indicated PBSO is attempting to purchase a camera system with their Law Enforcement Trust Fund. He said the cameras will be strategically placed and alert PBSO when stolen cars go by them. Mr. Schofield stated the funding request was currently being processed.

Captain Silva stated his officers continue to enhance traffic enforcement. He said they believe there is a strong correlation between traffic enforcement and traffic crash reduction. He stated citations increased by 18.75% from 2016 to 2017. He said they were not specifically looking for citations, as it was about getting out there and letting people know that PBSO is watching and that they need to drive lawfully.

Captain Silva stated there was no mystery as to the times and the months when the traffic crashes are happening. He said there are generally 100 crashes a month, but that number increases a bit more during the season.

Captain Silva stated he is very proud of their commercial motor vehicle enforcement division. He said Council authorized the hiring of two deputies a couple of years ago and they have done a tremendous job. He indicated 137 manure haulers were stopped in 2017 and 114 vehicles were put out of service as a result of their inspections. He stated these deputies also

successfully conducted covert operations on some of the haulers. He said they are working with the Village on fees and permits. He explained these deputies were also working with District 15 in the Loxahatchee area and attending the staff meetings there with the Village. He stated they are doing the best they can to make sure this issue is being addressed.

Captain Silva showed Council how Wellington stands versus other similarly situated cities. He stated with regards to population, Wellington is in the middle to high end compared to Boca, Delray, Jupiter and Palm Beach Gardens. He said residential burglaries in Wellington were the lowest per resident rate at 0.103 compared to these other jurisdictions. He indicated vehicle burglaries in Wellington, even with the increase, were the lowest per 100 residents. He stated Wellington was almost the lowest for robberies, and their clearance rate was second to none on the robberies that did occur. He explained even though the index is slightly up, Wellington is doing very well compared to other similarly situated jurisdictions and globally speaking. He stated the trend continues in the same direction as the last five years.

Captain Silva stated no matter how much time and effort PBSO spends fighting crime, they will find ways to add value to the community and help people in need. He said it ultimately adds value to the bottom line and helps them do their job better down the road, but they also get an opportunity to make a difference. He thought that was good on many levels.

Captain Silva indicated PBSO's performance goals and actions plans for 2018 were pretty much the same as last year. He said they were going to focus on burglaries and theft type crimes, as they want to keep those cases under 1,000 in 2018 and clear at least 10%. He indicated that was not a high bar for them, but it is the national average. He said they also wanted to keep their crash rate down below 3.0 per 100 residents. He stated that will be more and more challenging to do every year when they consider all of the distracted driving, roadway issues, etc.

Captain Silva indicated in 2017, PBSO increased their clearance rate to 23.8% for burglaries and residential burglaries decreased by 40.18%. He stated vehicle burglaries are bad, but people really feel invaded when their homes are burglarized. He said PBSO is very glad they have been able to contribute to that number going down. He explained the Citizen Patrol Volunteers are made aware PBSO's weekly analysis on crime, so they know where to focus their patrols and efforts.

Captain Silva stated the crash rate has gone down from 2.58 in 2016 to 2.4 in 2017, which is almost a 5% reduction. He indicated their traffic stops have increased, but they are not focusing on citations. He said they wanted to increase the amount of stops and contacts out on the roadway to help prevent crashes.

Captain Silva stated he wanted to thank and recognize many of the people who were supportive and helped make a difference this last year. He explained their janitor comes to work every day with a smile on his face. He said he makes a real difference not only because he picks up after the officers, but he is very pleasant to be around. Captain Silva said everyone they work with in the Village is spectacular. He also thanked Major Coleman, who took over this region six months ago and has been a tremendous asset. He thanked Lt. Shaivitz as well for standing in his shoes for many things and doing a tremendous job every day. He stated there are a lot of people doing a really good job in District 8 and he just wanted to acknowledge them, including Mr. Schofield, the Village and the Council for supporting PBSO.

Captain Silva stated PBSO will continue to focus on doing community service activities.

Captain Silva stated they are trending very well so far this year, as there has been a decrease in crime in particular activities. He said with the exception of one, in this four month time period versus 2017, PBSO is making progress. He said they continue to work very hard and are getting good results.

Mr. Schofield stated Wellington is at the bottom or very near the bottom in every single crime statistic. He said auto burglaries are up significantly, but they are still among the very lowest in the county. He stated that did not mean they did not need to look at it. He said, in response to that, Captain Silva is making provisions to move an auto burglary task force to Wellington in the Public Works facility.

Mr. Schofield stated he and Captain Silva meet regularly to discuss these things. He noted construction burglaries are up by 100%, from 1 to 2. He explained these numbers are really low, so it does not take a lot of change to get a big shift. He stated the biggest thing the residents can do to help protect the Village and themselves is lock their car doors and take their keys with them. He said almost all burglaries are to unlocked homes and cars. He said the cars that are stolen, almost universally have the keys in them. He stated they live in a very safe community, but if they live behind a gate it does not mean they do not have to do the basic things to keep everyone safe. He said if the cars were locked and no keys were left in them, their auto burglary rates and auto theft rates would be less than half of what they are and probably even lower.

Councilman Napoleone stated overall he is very pleased with what PBSO has done for Wellington. He said they are down in almost every category, except for the persistent vehicle thefts and burglaries. He asked if they knew the percentage of locked versus unlocked cars. Captain Silva stated on average they are talking about 80% versus 20%, as 80% to 85% of the vehicles burglarized are generally unlocked. He said if people locked their vehicles, this number would drop by 50% or more.

Vice Mayor Drahos stated the reputation of PBSO and Wellington is key for him. He said every time a helicopter goes up at night, people are concerned and want to know why. He thought having all of the canine units, detectives, street patrols, was a positive, because it sends out a message to the bad guys. He said the message is that Wellington has every resource available to apprehend and prosecute anyone who comes within its borders.

Vice Mayor Drahos stated of all of the statistics he has looked at tonight, the most important one is the number of arrests. He indicated there were 1,095 arrests in 2016 and 1,193 in 2017, which is 100 more arrests this year than last year. He said he likes to see that, as they are out catching these guys, although it means there is a bit more crime.

Vice Mayor Drahos stated if Captain Silva feels he needs a resource, he should let Council know immediately, so they can get what's needed in their hands as soon as possible. He said this Council prioritizes safety.

Vice Mayor Drahos stated he is pleased with PBSO's performance as well. He told them they were doing an exceptional job and to keep up the great work.

Vice Mayor Drahos indicated the Palm Beach Post wrote a very effective column today to address a situation on social media recently. He said there was a report about an attempted abduction at a local restaurant. He stated the social media post talked about how there were

rumors of increased abductions. He asked if Captain Silva could comment on that, specifically to the mothers who were contacting him with concerns of increased attempts of child abductions.

Captain Silva stated the Palm Beach Post article did a great job explaining what happened. He said ultimately there is absolutely zero merit to the idea that there is an increase in potential abductions and the like. He stated that case was debunked and there was nothing to it. He explained social media in general is a double-edged sword for PBSO. He stated Mr. Schofield is always trying to put out fires that rise up on social media, as some of it has no base or fact. However, they still have to respond to it. He said, on the other hand, social media is a useful tool to send out information and it has changed the way they have done policing. He stated in the particular case, it was not factual, there was nothing to it, and it was a misunderstanding.

Vice Mayor Drahos thought the residents needed to know that PBSO is in constant communication with this Council and the Village Manager about all kinds of situations. He said if there was even one attempted abduction in Wellington or the surrounding community, PBSO would immediately bring it to Council's attention and they would prioritize it as an absolute emergency that needed to be handled immediately.

Captain Silva stated this Council might even know something before him, as they developed a case of interest system with Mr. Schofield just this year. He said the protocol is for PBSO to immediately notify the Village when there are important cases of interest, so they can get that information to Council as quickly as possible. He stated PBSO tries to be very efficient in their communication. He said if a case liked this happened, Council would know immediately and Mr. Schofield would ensure that Council knows.

Captain Silva thanked Vice Mayor Drahos for his earlier comments. On behalf of his team, Captain Silva said they know Council is very supportive of them. He stated when they had an opportunity to bring the South Florida Task Force to their district and house them in Wellington, Mr. Schofield said he was there to do whatever it takes to make it happen. Captain Silva said that would add tremendous value, as all of those officers and their cars would be housed in Wellington. He indicated there are some impediments to that happening, so he cannot say that is going to happen yet, but they are working towards that end. He said anytime PBSO needs or asks for anything, this Council is always there to provide that support and that makes a tremendous difference.

Councilman McGovern gave great credit to Captain Silva and his command in Wellington. He said he thought the work they all have done, particularly with operation Wild Stallion, brought immediate results to decrease DUI in this community and show they have a zero tolerance policy. He agreed with his colleagues that the decrease in crime categories across the board, other than vehicle crime, was noteworthy and the increase in arrests was a testament to that. He said the more arrests there are, the more of a deterrent there is to doing crime in Wellington.

Councilman McGovern asked if Captain Silva needed any resources right now from this Council to decrease vehicle burglaries or stolen vehicles. Captain Silva indicated they are putting in a camera system with their LETF funds. He said it would help if Council could quickly approve it, as it will be part of a larger system. He stated the camera will automatically read license plates. He said this is just one example of a resource where they are looking for Council's support.

Councilman McGovern hoped this request would be at the next Council Meeting. He thought whatever resources were needed to bring vehicle crime back in line, needed to be implemented

quickly and responsibly. Mr. Schofield stated staff was moving it along quickly. He said it was going a bit slow, because they have to put in the poles and wire them for power. He indicated the poles are being designed, installed and approved right now.

Councilman McGovern thought the slide comparing Wellington to the other communities told the larger picture as to what is happening in District 8 with the partnership between the Village, this Council, Captain Silva and his command team and officers. He noted that Wellington is at the very bottom in almost every category indicating that Wellington is not no crime, but is very low crime. He stated that is in comparison to communities across the county as well as the state.

Councilman McGovern asked if Captain Silva's team was working with the gated communities to help them secure their entrances. He said the people in the video either walked in or drove in through a manned security gate.

Captain Silva stated he has had multiple meetings with Jim Taccone, the manager / president of the Master Association for Palm Beach Polo and their security chiefs. Captain Silva indicated his detective interviewed the security officers. He said they talked about what they could do to improve the overall culture of security in that particular development. He stated there are many ways to get into that community, as some fences are missing and people can just walk right in. He said they are taking measures to get that corrected and the Village has given them right-of-ways to put fences in places where they could not before. He stated they have the same security company, but they have changed out a lot of the people in charge. He indicated they are looking to hire a PBSO officer in the fall to be there 24/7 and have been working on budgets and scheduling for that. He stated PBSO takes a comprehensive look at every situation. He said they will go as far as knocking on doors and personally warning people and telling them there is a problem.

Councilman McGovern asked if there had been any neighborhood meetings inside their gated communities to discuss this with the members of the HOAs. Captain Silva stated they had a meeting in Palm Beach Polo where Sergeant Kennedy addressed the group after this issue and at their annual meeting. He indicated tomorrow night they were having a neighborhood watch meeting. He said they are constantly meeting and communicating with the different groups as things arise to convey what they know and get/give their help.

Councilman McGovern stated they discussed Operation Vigilance in January 2017 and asked if it was still going on. Captain Silva indicated they put this effort together with the Village of Royal Palm, District 9 and Belle Glade, and it concluded in June or July 2017. He said they picked up sixty-four (64) felony arrests and seized seventeen (17) firearms out of that operation. He explained this operation took them outside of the Village, into Riviera and Belle Glade, as they performed search warrants and worked as a collaborative effort. However, they all have their own priorities, so they cannot sustain an operation like that for a long period of time.

Councilman McGovern asked for an update in regards to District 8's partnership with school police and an assessment regarding school security, particularly as it applies to the eleven Wellington public schools, several months post Parkland.

Captain Silva stated the operative word is communication, as he has talked to them about the triangle of communication. He indicated PBSO is at one corner, the School District Police are at one corner, and the schools themselves are at one corner. He stated they make sure those lines of communication are very open and very effective. He said within their own department they have a triangle of communication with their vehicle services department, their regular

operations, and their RSRT people. He stated they make sure that, for any information that comes through either social media or any other source, all of the players are involved and it gets a full investigation. He said they are able to use a new law to prosecute people who get on social media and make outrageous statements and do improper things. He indicated Monday through Friday, they are augmenting the School District Police Department by putting their deputies in the schools that do not have officers. He stated they cannot be there all the time, but they are there as much as possible. He thinks communication is key. He stated Major Kano was there to make a presentation to Council. He said their people stay in contact with each other, as that is a top priority for them.

Captain Silva stated PBSO has been doing some active shooter training on their end to help improve their responses to that type of incident, should it occur.

Councilman McGovern asked for an update on the PBSO trip to Puerto Rico for Operation Coqui. Captain Silva stated Operation Coqui was very successful, as they delivered \$80,000 worth of Visa debit cards. He thanked Council for attending their Jeep show. He said they raised several thousand dollars at that event. He mentioned they will have a video out shortly and he hoped they could present it to Council, so they could see how moving it was. He stated the officers in Puerto Rico were so devastated and worked so hard for many days after Hurricane Maria. He said it was emotional as they were at the point in the river where two officers had drowned and lost their lives during the hurricane. He stated it was the first time that someone actually acknowledged and thanked the police officers for everything they went through. He said a lot of them lost so much. He stated it was in their hearts to go out and serve every day, but no one was taking care of them. He said they were so moved that Palm Beach County, the Village of Wellington and everyone who got involved in Operation Coqui did what they did.

Councilwoman Siskind stated she agreed with Council's comments and commended Captain Silva and his team on getting great results. She said these are statistics on paper, but they know how hard the officers work every day and what a difference it makes to the Village of Wellington. She thanked them for all of the special operations, as she believes that helped get the message out that Wellington is zero tolerance. She stated they just needed to get their residents to lock their doors. She thanked the team for all of their community service and their partnership with the Village. She said they do a great job.

Mayor Gerwig stated she spoke to the woman who posted the social media issue. She said she told the woman that if children were being abducted in Wellington that she herself would be alerting everyone. She said people needed to check their sources and not spread pure rumors. She stated if someone is afraid, they should call PBSO. She said passing on untrue information makes it all that much worse for the community. She explained it is not about their reputation, as it is about the Village letting people know if there is a problem. She stated they would notify people along with PBSO. She said she appreciated the alerts the Village receives from PBSO.

Mayor Gerwig stated she has noticed a lot of speeding through the Village and people have told her they see a lot of speeding. She thought that had to lead to more severe accidents. She said she has seen the officers out motioning for motorists to slow down. She understood it was not all about writing tickets and citations. She said to let her know if there is something they could do as a community to get everyone to slow down and pay more attention to the road when they are driving, because it makes a big difference in fatalities and accidents.

Mayor Gerwig stated Wellington was ranked one of the safest cities in the state by a company that looks at security numbers. She said the Sun-Sentinel called and asked her what she thought made the difference for the Village to be put on that list, and she thought it was the clearance rate. She stated people are not going to keep coming back here if they are getting caught here. She thanked Captain Silva for that clearance rate. She asked if that was the difference and what makes the Village that much safer.

Captain Silva stated he looks at the mark of a safe city from the standpoint of his job and their team at District 8. He said a doctor cannot prevent all diseases from taking place, but what makes a good doctor is similarly what makes them a good law enforcement agency. He stated it is their ability to diagnose and prevent crime by using best practices and how they respond to crimes that take place in the Village. He indicated Wellington's crime rate is among the lowest and their clearance rate is among the highest. He said that is a good ratio to have. He stated their ability to diagnose and respond, know who the bad guys are and clear cases with arrests, is second to none. He thought that was the hallmark of an excellent law enforcement agency. He said the index is important, as it shows if they are trending up or down in terms of crime, but the clearance rate really tells the picture of how well they are responding, diagnosing and dealing with crime as it takes place.

Mayor Gerwig stated she sent Captain Silva a text a few days ago, telling him she saw one of his officers changing a tire for a young African-American student. She said her mom friends who are African-American are afraid for their sons and the police relations. She stated she wished she had stopped and taken a picture, because it was a good moment. She said the African-American moms have a real fear of their twenty-year-olds driving around town and being accused of something. She thought they had to work on that community spirit and thanked the officer for doing exactly that. She stated she does not discount the feeling of fear that people have of being profiled or of their son making a mistake that maybe her son could get away with. She said as they work on that, PBSO should let the Village know what it can do to help with this.

Captain Silva stated they understand that sometimes a gap exists between PBSO and several members of the public. He thought it was on PBSO to work hard to bridge that gap and show people they care. He said it was like the old adage, "People don't care how much you know until they know how much you care." He stated the officers are more effective and are able to do their jobs better when they are out there showing people they actually care. He thought that had to start at the highest level and be modeled all the way down. He said it was like Sheriff Bradshaw sending them to Puerto Rico. He stated it happens all the time. He said as he just received a letter today from a resident who was very pleased, because someone helped them in a time of need. He stated he loves getting those letters. He said they try to have that culture at District 8, as it is very important to them. He thanked Mayor Gerwig for recognizing that and sending him that text.

Mayor Gerwig stated it was not the officer's job to change tires, but it took care of the problem the quickest way possible. Captain Silva said if they can do it, why not.

Mayor Gerwig thanked Captain Silva and told him to let the Village know what they can do to support him and his team. Council thanked Captain Silva as well.

B. 18-2004 FLORIDA GREEN BUILDING COALITION CERTIFIED GREEN LOCAL GOVERNMENT – CITY HIGHEST SCORE AWARD FOR 2017

Mr. Schofield introduced the item. He stated Mr. Branden Miller worked on this project and the Village is very proud of this award.

Mr. Branden Miller indicated the Village of Wellington was awarded the Gold Certification last year from the Florida Green Building Coalition. He said this year they were awarded the Highest Scoring City for 2017 in the State of Florida. He stated this was a great honor, because the Village of Wellington is the largest certified green agency in the state.

Mr. Miller explained the Florida Green Building Coalition came to Wellington in September last year. He stated their new director, C.J. Davila, spoke on their behalf and provided Council with a brief background as to their history and what they do. Mr. Miller said the evaluation process is not necessarily about how the Village constructs buildings, but it is more about how sustainable and efficient they are across all departments.

Mr. Miller stated he was very fortunate to be the project manager for the recertification process. He said it was amazing to see how involved and passionate the departments and employees were. He stated he was also surprised to see how efficiently the Village operates. He said he believes it is a reflection of why Wellington is a great hometown.

Mr. Miller showed Council the award. He said he was very fortunate to attend the ceremony and accept the award on Wellington's behalf.

Council thanked Mr. Miller for his efforts and to everyone who contributed to winning this award.

Mr. Schofield stated they receive a lot of questions regarding Wellington's green practices and what is being done to make sure they are a sustainable city. He explained the Village uses natural gas to run its vehicles, the Village Hall building is LEED's Gold and all new construction meets those standards. He said they make an effort every day, so it is nice to receive the recognition and be awarded the highest scoring green city in Florida.

Councilman McGovern indicated there are 72 local governments that are Florida Green Building Coalition certified. He stated out of those 72, only 10 have gold status. He said out of those 10, Wellington achieved the highest ranking in 2017. He thought that summed up the magnitude of what they were talking about.

Councilman McGovern stated the Village just celebrated Earth Day and Arbor Day, and this certification is important to them as a community. He believed this was reflected through their staff and through their practices. He thanked Mr. Miller for leading this effort and congratulated the Village on receiving this award.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. 18-2022** MINUTES OF THE REGULAR WELLINGTON COUNCIL MEETING OF FEBRUARY 13, 2018
- B. 18-1839** AUTHORIZATION TO AWARD A CONTRACT FOR WELLINGTON WETLAND PARK BOARDWALK REFURBISHMENT (PHASE 1)
- C. 18-1913** AUTHORIZATION TO EXTEND A LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN ACME IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT AND J. ALDERMAN FARMS, INC. FOR THE K-PARK SITE

Mr. Schofield stated staff recommended adoption of the Consent Agenda as presented.

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

Mr. Schofield indicated no public comment cards were received.

7. PUBLIC HEARINGS

There were no Public Hearings.

8. REGULAR AGENDA

A. 18-1995 AUTHORIZATION TO AWARD A TASK ORDER TO PROVIDE ENGINEERING CONSULTING SERVICES FOR THE WATER SYSTEM BOOSTER STATIONS EVALUATION

Mayor Gerwig stated she has an engineering firm that she owns one share of stock in and has a business relationship with Mock Roos that is not related to this item in any way. She said according to the Palm Beach County Code of Ethics, she needs to recuse herself from this item. She left the Chambers at this time.

Mr. Schofield introduced the item. He said the Village Utility employs two booster stations. He stated one of the two very large water storage tanks is located on Lake Worth Road near the Isles and Grand Isles, and the other is located on Greenbriar next to the Dog Park. He said these structures are about thirty years old and the pumps provide a place to store water and provide pressure to the system.

Mr. Schofield stated the contract for \$29,992 is to evaluate the systems and look at any changes the Village may need to update to bring them forward into the next several years. He said Mock Roos is one of their annual consultants and the projected cost is well within what the Village would expect to pay for this. He stated staff recommended approval.

Councilman McGovern asked what would be done over what period of time. Ms. LaRocque stated this is a condition assessment on two of the Village's remote booster pump stations. She said this assessment will evaluate all equipment and facilities on both sites and make recommendations for improvements, along with costs, in order to keep them in working condition over the next 20 to 30 years.

Councilman McGovern asked what these facilities do on a daily basis. Ms. LaRocque stated they basically help maintain distribution pressure and water quality in the distribution system.

A motion was made by Councilman McGovern, seconded by Councilman Napoleone, and unanimously passed (4-0), with Mayor Gerwig recused, approving the Authorization to Award a Task Order to Provide Engineering Consulting Services for the Water System Booster Stations Evaluation as presented.

9. PUBLIC FORUM

Mr. Schofield indicated no comment cards or requests for the Public Forum were received.

Mayor Gerwig returned to the Chambers at this point.

10. ATTORNEY'S REPORT

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

- Ms. Cohen indicated Council will be discussing a proposed settlement from the Florida Municipal Insurance Trust (FMIT). Mayor Gerwig stated she is a trustee on the FMIT Board and she is recusing herself from this discussion.

Ms. Cohen stated she asked Mr. Friedman to come talk to Council about their discussion with FMIT. She said they cannot delve into detail concerning what occurred in the mediation, they can discuss the proposal on the table. She explained they are not talking about this in a closed attorney-client session, because the open meetings law in Florida only permits attorney-client sessions for pending litigation. She said this was a pre-suit mediation, so they have to discuss it in public.

Mr. Friedman stated this issue deals with the nine (9) lawsuits that had been filed. He said one (1) remains pending, as it has been stayed for quite a while. He stated these claims were noticed to FMIT and denied by FMIT in the 2011-2012 time period. He said they may recall a previous dispute with FMIT over a claim in which the insurance company had sued the Village. He stated he represented the Village in that litigation and resolved it. He said, after that litigation was resolved, they looked at some of the previously denied claims for the possibility of recovery. He stated Ms. Cohen identified nine (9) such lawsuits and they followed up with FMIT. He said the Village did not file litigation immediately, as they had some discussions, provided additional information, and entered into negotiations with the insurance company over these claims.

Mr. Friedman stated the Village and FMIT engaged in a pre-suit mediation on April 13, 2018. He said Mr. Schofield, Councilman Napoleone and Ms. Cohen were there, in addition to a couple of lawyers and representatives from FMIT, including Eric Hartwell from the Florida League of Cities and the Claims Adjuster. He stated they engaged in mediation for about seven hours discussing the various claims and the merits of coverage for the claims negotiated. He said they were not able to reach a settlement during the mediation, although they bridged a lot of gaps and clarified some issues. He indicated the insurance company made an offer at the end of the mediation. He stated they had some subsequent discussions after the mediation to try to improve the offer and they were able to negotiate some additional terms. He said an offer was extended and they are presenting it to the Council for approval. He stated he could go through each of the nine (9) lawsuits in detail if the Council would like him to do so.

Vice Mayor Drahos asked about the claims for the people who are watching at home. Mr. Friedman explained that four or five of the claims were primarily land use claims that spawned out of the Wellington Equestrian Village project back in 2011–2012, based on the initial approval of the master plan amendment and the capability determination. He said some of the other claims had to do with different types of land use disputes with property owners.

Vice Mayor Drahos asked why the claims were being denied. Mr. Friedman stated the Village had asked for a defense of the claims, as the Village was brought into these

lawsuits. He explained, in many cases, the Village was a defendant in the lawsuit and, in some instances, various groups were essentially litigating each other and the Village was a named defendant. He said, in some instances, the decisions made by the Village were challenged. He indicated the Village asked the insurance company to pay for the lawyers representing the Village in these cases. He stated ultimately none of the cases resulted in any indemnity payments under the insurance policies. He said this was all about defense costs or lawyers' fees that the Village incurred in order to defend these cases. He stated when the claims were presented to FMIT for coverage, to pay the lawyers that defended the Village, the insurance company refused to pay on the basis the claims were not covered for a variety of reasons. He explained each lawsuit had to be analyzed separately, but the insurance company determined none were covered and did not pay for the defense cost for any of them. He said all of them concluded, with the exception of one claim that has been stayed now for several years. He stated there were no payments. He said the Village paid the lawyers that defended them in these cases and the Village was seeking reimbursement of those costs.

Mr. Friedman stated in the course of the discussions in the mediation and subsequent follow-up, the insurance company made an offer for the Council's consideration. He said the total amount of defense cost the Village was seeking was about \$609,000 across the nine cases. He stated the one case that remains has been stayed pending a resolution and is related to another case, which is why it has been stayed for so long. He said it is the Jacobs vs. Village of Wellington 2012 civil case.

Ms. Cohen indicated the case is an action for declaratory and injunctive relief challenging the Village's approval of the master plan amendment and compatibility determination. She thinks it was stayed due to some of the litigation that was pending then, but also because of the case the Jacobs brought against the POA concerning pulling that piece out of the POA. She stated that case went to trial on the factual issues, which were determined in favor of the defendant. She believed Polo Field 1 or the Bellissimo entity at that time is the one that sued. She stated the court has not yet entered a final judgement, but it is anticipated that it will be appealed. She said the Circuit Court in which the stayed matter is pending has issued a Notice of Lack of Prosecution and a Status Conference Notice. She stated given the Village is not a party to the unrelated case concerned the Jacobs and the POA. She said she suspects, given that it has not been finally determined, the court will continue to stay the matter.

Mr. Friedman stated one sticking point during the course of the mediation was the fact that the Jacobs case was still pending and the Village had requested that any settlement of these nine lawsuits include a carve out for that case, so they were not releasing any future defense costs in the case. He said during subsequent discussions, the insurance company agreed to carve that out. He stated they were negotiating the amount to be paid for the Village's past defense costs and what to do with this pending case, as well as some issues related to the scope of the release and what it would look like.

Mr. Friedman stated he sent an e-mail to FMIT's counsel after the mediation proposing certain terms that were based on what they had discussed subsequent to the mediation. He said the counsel said the insurance company would agree to those terms subject to this Council's approval. He stated as to the approximately \$609,000 in past defense costs, the insurance company would pay \$350,000 and, as to eight of the nine cases, the Village would be releasing any claims for any coverage related to these claims or lawsuits. He said, as to the ninth case, the Jacobs case, the Village would be simply

agreeing that should the case resume, it would be reassessed for coverage moving forward. He indicated the FMIT sought a commitment from the Village to accept the counsel that the insurance company would appoint if the case were to go back. He said the Village has agreed that they would discuss accepting counsel, so long as that counsel is qualified in this particular area, and that they would not insist on the counsel they have retained. He noted this is an area that in general the insurance company would have a right to appoint counsel, if they were paying for the defense. He stated in this case, FMIT had denied the claim, so the Village had to hire their own counsel. He said, arguably, the Village could insist on maintaining its own counsel and having FMIT pay for it. He stated the insurance company felt very strongly about this issue, so the Village agreed it was something they would work with them on and not insist that FMIT continue to pay for the Village counsel.

Councilman McGovern asked if there was some knowledge of the case where changing attorneys would hurt the Village's legal position in the matter if the stay were to be lifted and they were to proceed with that litigation. Ms. Cohen indicated she has worked with the firm that they typically assign to defend the Village for covered claims and two or three of the attorneys are well versed in land use law. She said she believed, if the stayed case was revived, the defense by the insurance defense counsel would be more than adequate. She stated this firm represents the League and does insurance defense work for the League in this part of the state.

Ms. Cohen indicated, as part of the release, the Village would not be releasing future fees in the stayed matter but would be releasing any past fees. She stated that would all be included in the settlement number of \$350,000. She said it is her opinion and she believes it is Mr. Friedman's opinion that this is a good offer. She stated it is their recommendation that Council accept this offer. She thought this was the maximum FMIT was willing to pay under the circumstances. She reminded Council that these were budgeted funds that have already been expended by the Village, so the money that is recouped goes back into the general fund and is a benefit the taxpayers. She said it will avoid the further expense of litigation and the uncertainty.

Vice Mayor Drahos asked if this was the situation where Mr. Friedman took a proactive approach and suggested looking at these claims to see if he could create an argument to give rise to the Village's recovery. Ms. Cohen explained when the Village had made a claim for coverage concerning the enforcement case, they wanted to use their own counsel as Mr. Riedi was very familiar with the Big Blue matters. She stated FMIT agreed to provide defense for that case, but reserved their right and later sued the Village for declaratory action seeking a determination whether defense and indemnity was required under the policy. She said when FMIT sued the Village, she retained Mr. Friedman with Council's consent.

Ms. Cohen stated when Mr. Friedman reviewed the policy, he felt there was coverage for that case. She said she asked him to look at the remaining cases the Village had submitted a claim for and that were denied. She indicated Council agreed to his fee to review those cases. She stated Mr. Friedman believed there was coverage and she notified the FMIT. She thought it was FMIT's desire and request that they engage in a pre-suit mediation rather than filing the lawsuits and having the litigation proceed. She believed in part that was because the Village has a good relationship with FMIT and that FMIT did not want to have bad feelings between them.

Vice Mayor Drahos stated relationships are one thing, but legal arguments are what drive settlement offers. He said Mr. Friedman obviously came up with a legal argument to motivate FMIT to come to this number. Vice Mayor Drahos asked why the Council should consider taking \$350,000 of a \$609,000 demand.

Mr. Friedman stated he would answer the question in best way possible without revealing any attorney-client communications or thoughts. He said they are talking about defense costs with these nine cases, as they are not talking about indemnity or any sort of payments.

Councilman McGovern indicated, for those who are watching, there are two elements under an insurance policy. He said first is the duty to defend and second is the duty to indemnify. He explained the duty to indemnify is the payout of any kind of judgement that would be a damage award. He said if the Village of Wellington had to pay some amount, it would be covered under the indemnity portion of their insurance policy. He stated the other component of an insurance policy is the duty to defend. He said that means when a claim is made against the Village, the insurance policy provides for the Village to have a defense or an attorney that is paid for by the insurer to defend the Village throughout the entire case. He stated in this case FMIT denied coverage, so they did not indemnify or defend the Village. He said that is what the Village has gone back to revisit.

Mr. Friedman stated the Village did not ask for any indemnity coverage, because there were no adverse judgments and the Village did not pay anything. He said that was not an issue. He stated the Village did request reimbursement for the monies they paid for the defense counsel for those cases. He said they had to analyze the allegations in the complaints for a defense. He indicated, in many instances, they had initial complaints and amended complaints, which required a review of the dockets and the pleadings in those cases. He said in one case in particular, there was an order that also impacted the question.

Mr. Friedman stated one defense that was raised was a lack of a claim for damages in these cases. He said in one particular order there was a discussion about damages that was also brought to the insurance company's attention. He stated ultimately it is the determination from an eight corners test. He said the eight corners include four corners of what the policy says and four corners of what the complaint says. He explained they look at those two things and determine based on what is alleged, if the insurance company should be defending. He stated the duty to defend is significantly broader than the duty to indemnify. He said whether the insurance company has to ultimately pay for a judgement really depends on what gets proven in the case, the basis for damages that may be assessed. He stated duty to defend is based on the possibility that ultimately the Village may be assessed damages in the case.

Mr. Friedman stated it required an analysis of the many complaints in these nine cases, as some cases had stronger claims for coverage than others. He said they had presented that position and a detailed analysis by complaint to the insurance company a month or two before the mediation. He stated the insurance company had said they believed that two or three claims were arguable, which means they probably thought they were covered. He said the negotiations started there and kind of built from there.

Councilman McGovern stated two or three cases were arguable as to the defense position. He asked if FMIT felt some cases were absolutely iron clad and clear. Mr. Friedman stated in the course of the mediation, FMIT's position was that it was crystal clear that the rest of the cases were not covered at all. He indicated an impassioned plea was made by the counsel for FMIT, saying if they paid for every one of these types of land use cases, they would be bankrupt and could not operate.

Mr. Friedman stated it was more of a policy argument as opposed to a legal argument, as a judge would analyze them case-by-case and complaint-by-complaint as to whether there would be a duty to defend. He said the Village focused the negotiation on looking at each one of them and essentially tried to build upon the base of what FMIT considered to be arguable cases. He stated they also looked at other cases and tried to build more money into it.

Ms. Cohen stated the Village also had any overarching argument that FMIT disagreed with concerning the relationship between the trust agreement, which is the agreement where they join the pool of insureds and the actual policy. She said the language of the trust agreement was very broad on the defense coverage, whereas the language in the policy itself was narrower. She indicated that was also at play with respect to the other cases they felt were not covered, because of a lack of possible damage award.

Councilman McGovern asked if there was not a possible damage award, if there would not be coverage. Ms. Cohen stated it was FMIT's argument that if there were no allegations in the complaint that could give rise to damages that there would be no coverage. Councilman McGovern said that would mean there would be no duty to defend and no duty to indemnify, so there was nothing to indemnify for. Ms. Cohen stated it would not be a covered claim.

Councilman Napoleone stated that in part was tied to the argument that every time there is an adverse land use decision by a Council, even if there is no claim for damages, it would trigger a duty to defend every time someone disagreed with a Council's position. He said that position arguably makes sense from the insurance standpoint, as they cannot defend every time someone does not like the decision of a Council, unless there is a damage component to it. He noted that is the way the policy reads.

Councilman Napoleone stated he was at the mediation for the entire day. He said the Village was able to make a colorable argument for coverage on all of its claims, but they were not 100% certain all of them would be covered. He explained they would have to go behind the pleadings to know the facts of the complaint in order to get themselves into an argument where there potentially could be damages in a case. He said just looking at the face of the complaint would not trigger the duty to defend. He indicated the Village went into the mediation with a number they thought would be a homerun and they got slightly below it with the offer of \$350,000.

Councilman Napoleone stated the Village tried to get the number higher, but it was not going to go up from \$350,000 based on everything he experienced in the mediation. He said there was a carve-out for any future defense costs arising out of the one Jacobs case that has been stayed and the \$350,000 recovery on \$609,000. He thought if they further analyzed each case, the Village probably would not be entitled to or indemnified for all the defense costs totaling \$609,000.

Councilman Napoleone stated that Vice Mayor Drahos said he was not concerned about relationships. He said normally when someone is suing someone, they get a settlement and you never see them again. He stated he thinks in the case the Village does want to consider their ongoing and future relationship with FMIT, as the Village will need them to defend again. He said it is a partnership and not just an insurer relationship.

Councilman Napoleone thought the \$350,000 reflected a really good number on the Village's total claim and its total realistic attainable claim. He explained FMIT did not do a detailed analysis on the Village lawyers' fees, as they just took the total fee of \$609,000 as their starting point of what the Village demanded. He said that number would get whittled down by a court if they were to get into a real fee dispute. He encouraged Council to accept the recommendation of their counsel and outside counsel and approve the \$350,000 with the carve-out for the Jacobs case going forward if it does revive. He said this would put to bed everything in the past.

Ms. Cohen clarified that the carve-out does not say that FMIT agrees to cover it. She said the carve-out says the Village would be in the same position with this claim then as they are today. She stated the Village would release any past fees and FMIT is preserving their right with respect to any future fees. She said FMIT would still have the ability to bring a declaratory judgement action and deny coverage, and the Village would have to face that at the time, if the case revives itself.

Councilwoman Siskind stated Councilman Napoleone answered her question, as she wanted to know if he thought this was a fair offer. She said she thought this was a fair offer, because it is recouping money that will go back to their residents.

Councilman McGovern stated Council had an extensive discussion previously on whether they should go forward with this and under what structure. He asked Ms. Cohen to remind him of the fee structure. Ms. Cohen stated if the Council accepts the offer, Mr. Friedman's fee is 15%. Mr. Friedman said that was correct. Ms. Cohen stated, with respect to the mediation, they agreed FMIT would cover the mediator's travel expenses and the Village would share the hourly fee. She said that cost will be covered by the Village pursuant to their agreement with Mr. Friedman.

Councilman McGovern asked if the Village has been insured by anyone other than FMIT. Mr. Schofield stated, in his tenure, it has not. He indicated FMIT has not always been the lowest on paper, but if the Village does not use all of their premiums, FMIT refunds them annually. He said FMIT has always been the lowest insurer, but the Village does not use FMIT without it being competitively bid.

Ms. Cohen stated in the last solicitation, one thing that was particularly valued by the Village was the fact that FMIT had a whole team of claims adjusters who, in the event of a hurricane, had their boots on the ground immediately after the event to help the Village through that process.

Mr. Schofield indicated FMIT has paid all of the Village's Irma related claims. He said they are still several years from the FEMA reimbursements.

Councilman McGovern asked Mr. Schofield for his recommendation, as he attended the mediation as well. Mr. Schofield recommended that Council accept the offer.

Councilman McGovern thought for the viewing public it should be noted that this was money that was expended in litigation almost a decade ago that the Village is actually getting back for the residents. He said that has been the mindset of this Council from its inception, which is to decrease litigation and bring matters to a close.

Councilman McGovern stated he was deferring to all who attended the mediation, since they could not discuss it in a way that would allow them to have a full understanding of the basis for the \$350,000. He said he agreed with Councilman Napoleone's point that just because the total amount of attorneys' fees paid was \$609,000, it would be significantly less after it was examined based on hourly rate, number of attorneys, reasonable amount of time spent, expert attorneys disputing on both sides, etc.

Councilman Napoleone stated the more time and money the Village spends trying to get there will minimize the amount of money they will actually recover.

A motion was made by Councilman Napoleone, seconded by Councilwoman Siskind, and unanimously passed (4-0), with Mayor Gerwig recused, to accept the offer from FMIT for the \$350,000 in payment for past legal fees with the release given and the carve out for the Jacobs case to be decided on a going forward basis.

Mayor Gerwig returned to the Chambers at this point.

- Ms. Cohen indicated she has a hearing tomorrow morning on the Village's motion for Order to Show Cause. She said it is an 8:45 AM motion calendar hearing to ask the court to issue the Order to Show Cause in the Palm Beach Polo soccer case. She stated if the court issues the Show Cause Order, it will issue an order with the date and time certain for a hearing. She said at that time the Village would attend an evidentiary hearing and present their evidence as to why the court should find the defendant in contempt.

Ms. Cohen explained that Palm Beach Polo had a special use permit to play soccer on the golf course on the south side of Forest Hill Blvd. She stated, because of violations of the conditions of the permit, the Village revoked the special use permit. She said, in spite of that, Palm Beach Polo continued to play soccer on that property. She stated the Village felt it was not going to be effective to bring the matter before the Special Magistrate, so they brought an action for a temporary and permanent injunction. She indicated they had an evidentiary hearing on the Temporary Injunction Motion. After the hearing, the court made an oral ruling from the bench granting the Village's Motion for Temporary Injunction. She said although that order had not yet been reduced to writing, it was nevertheless binding. She stated, despite the court's order in the presence of Mr. Straub at the hearing, the soccer continued on the next Sunday. She said prior to that she had sent an e-mail to Mr. Domb, reminding him that the oral ruling of the court was binding and that there should be no soccer. Mr. Domb responded by saying that his client will do whatever he pleases with his property. Ms. Cohen stated based on the continued soccer, the fact that Mr. Straub was present, and the representation from his counsel concerning his intent to do whatever he pleased despite the court order, she felt it was appropriate to bring the motion for Order to Show Cause and hence the hearing tomorrow.

11. MANAGER'S REPORT

MR. SCHOFIELD: Mr. Schofield presented the following report:

- The next Regular Council Meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 8, 2018, at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.
- The Lakeside Luau event will take place this Thursday, April 26th, from 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. behind the Wellington Community Center.

12. COUNCIL REPORTS

VICE MAYOR DRAHOS: Vice Mayor Drahos presented the following report:

- Vice Mayor Drahos stated he had no report.

COUNCILMAN NAPOLEONE: Councilman Napoleone presented the following report:

- Councilman Napoleone reminded everyone that the last of the lakeside events is this Thursday night and it will have a Luau theme. He said the events have been well attended and well received, so the Village will probably plan some more events.

COUNCILMAN MCGOVERN: Councilman McGovern presented the following report:

- He commended Shannon LaRocque, Director of Utilities, and her team for Wellington being awarded the Most Improved Water Treatment Plant in the State Class A Category for 2017. He thought this was noteworthy as they look at doing significant work in their utility and having it be a state-of-the-art, first class facility for their residents.
- He reminded residents that now is the time to apply for Village Boards and Committees. He stated the applications are available, as Council will be making the appointments in the near future. He encouraged those interested in serving to apply or contact any of the Village Council members.
- He indicated registration is now open for the Wellington summer camps at Wellingtonfl.gov/camps. He indicated there are a lot of new camp offerings.

COUNCILWOMAN SISKIND: Councilwoman Siskind presented the following report:

- She congratulated the Wellington Chambers on the Flavors event. She said it was well attended and delicious.
- She stated the Earth/Arbor Day celebration was very successful. She suggested distributing a flyer to the elementary and middle schools and to any environmental clubs at the high schools to increase attendance and participation next year. Mayor Gerwig recommended participation by the Boys and Girls Scouts as well.
- She stated the SWAG students are beginning their program. She thanked Paulette Edwards for her work on the program. She encouraged everyone to stop by on Monday and talk to the students.

MAYOR GERWIG: Mayor Gerwig presented the following report:

- She thanked the Wycliffe Stiffs for inviting her to their wrap-up luncheon along with the Parks & Recreation Department. She stated two stickball leagues play at Village Park and they really appreciate the Parks & Recreation staff. She thanked the Parks & Recreation staff, as it is unusual to have a Village that responds so well.
- She stated over \$8 million was given by the PBSO volunteers through volunteer service hours in Palm Beach County. She thought that was amazing. She said the Village has 16 individuals who volunteer their time by riding around and assisting with public safety. She stated it is a huge benefit to the Village.
- She asked if the Village could provide demonstrations of Pickleball to the senior club to let them know that the program is available. She said it is new to the Village, but it is a huge craze throughout the county. She stated people with all levels of physical ability can participate.
- She stated the Jim Sackett Softball Tournament is Saturday morning at Village Park. She said he has been doing this benefit for Friends of Foster Children of Palm Beach County for many years.
- She indicated the Village won Let's Move and had the most minutes of exercise as a community. She thanked Paulette Edwards, the Community Services Department, and Jim Barnes for getting the community involved. She said she appreciated everyone working together on this. She stated she told Ultima that the award could be displayed at their facility and then brought back to the Village trophy case, because they were a great community partner along with many others. She suggested they recognize Liz Nunez and her staff as well as Wellington Green at the next Council Meeting. She said she was proud of this community.

Councilman McGovern stated last year he attended the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Department volunteer awards ceremony. He said it is a tremendous event. He stated Wellington is #1 when it comes to Citizen Patrol. He said this organization is near and dear to this community, as it started in Wellington. He stated Wellington resident Chet McCarthy, who lives in Buena Vida, was given the Volunteer Captain of the Year award. Councilman McGovern congratulated Mr. McCarthy and recognized all of the volunteers.

13. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Village Council, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:55 PM.

Approved:

Anne Gerwig, Mayor

Chevelle D. Nubin, Village Clerk