

**TOWN OF HYPOLUXO**  
**MINUTES**  
**REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Al Merion Council Chamber**  
**Wednesday, August 16, 2023**

**CALL TO ORDER** - Mayor Michael Brown called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM

**MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG.**

**ROLL CALL - ELECTED OFFICIALS:** Mayor Michael Brown, Vice Mayor Richard Roney and Town Council Members Brad Doyle, Linda Allen, Bob Leupp, and Stephanie Kahlert were present. There was a quorum.

**AGENDA APPROVAL – Addition/Deletions/ Modifications and Adoption –**

Mayor Brown removed the item regarding the proposed referendum to a future meeting. In addition, he added an item regarding continuing maintaining the front parking lot area for the Hypoluxo Scrub Natural Area.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS –**

The First Hearing for the Budget will be held on September 5, 2023 at 5:01 P.M. The Final Hearing for the Budget will be held on September 20, 2023 at 7:00 PM.

**GUEST SPEAKER – SENATOR BOBBIE POWELL, JR. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

Senator Bobbie Powell, Jr., was welcomed and introduced as the State Senator for the Town of Hypoluxo. He provided an update regarding the legislative bills including the current process of how bills are adopted, cemetery that were abandoned – including assistance in identifying loved ones that are not properly identifying, FDOT surplus land can be used for affordable housing as a public need, foreclosure notification, the voice of individuals in Iran who are being suppressed. Palm Beach County had approximately \$27.6 million in projects before budget cuts and \$21.9 million after cuts. Funding projects include Kopp Science Center, Palm Beach Lake Worth Lagoon, Urban League Programs, City of Green Acres Youth Program, Lantana Water Main, Riveria Beach Lift Station and Police Substation vehicle, FAU, Outreach Family Services, Young Adult Aerospace Services, Everglades protection, hurricane protection, local transportation, Florida National Guard and College Board. Legislation includes the Live Local Act, Form 6 for local officials, Local Ordinances are subject to legal impacts from local business owners if there is a negative impact, school board district term limits and residency requirements, election – resign to run for governor, registering for voters, gun permits, immigration protection and school vouchers. He highlighted the “Powell Press” and invited residents to view his weekly broadcast on YouTube.

Mayor Brown thanked Senator Powell for bringing \$21 million in funding and voicing his support for home rule legislation.

**COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC – None.**

**Action/Discussion –**

**1. Consent Agenda –**

**a. Regular Minutes from the July 19, 2023, Meeting.**

**Vice Mayor Roney moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Seconded by Councilmember Allen. Vote: Unanimous.**

**a. Appointment of Planning and Zoning Board Members**

Mayor Brown introduced the Planning and Zoning Board Members that were present including Chairman John Underwood, John Sochacki, Doug Besecker and James Deery. Mark Albright was not present but is willing to serve on the Board.

Each member was thanked for their willingness to serve.

Mayor Brown opened the discussion to the general public. There being none, this section of the meeting was closed.

**Councilmember Leupp moved to approve the appointment of the following Planning and Zoning Board members, John Underwood, Mark Albright, Doug Besecker, James Deery and John Sochacki. Seconded by Councilmember Allen. Vote: Unanimous.**

**2. Ordinances and Resolutions – None.**

**Public Hearings – None**

**3. Discussion/Action Items –**

**Request to participate in the Department of Environmental Protection Resilient Florida Grant Program**

Mayor Brown summarized the staff report. He noted this was previously discussed. In 2021, the Resilient Florida program was created by the State of Florida recognizing the need to address resilient planning efforts in the local municipalities. Funding is available for projects to identify vulnerable assessments which is a statutory requirement to obtain future grant funding. The funding will be provided through a grant through Palm Beach County.

Mayor Brown opened the discussion to the general public. There being none, this section of the meeting was closed.

**Vice Mayor Roney moved to approve the request to participate in the grant with Palm Beach County and participate in the Resilient Florida Grant Program. Seconded by Councilmember Leupp. Vote: Unanimous.**

**Discussion regarding proposed referendum item regarding four-year terms for Councilmembers and Mayor and an Ordinance to have the municipal election dates correspond with any primary election being conducted.**

This item was removed from the agenda and will be heard at a future meeting.

#### **NON-AGENDA ITEM**

**Discussion regarding continuing the Interlocal Agreement for the Hypoluxo Scrub Natural Area including the maintenance of the front two-acre parcel.**

Mayor Brown advised a meeting was held with Palm Beach County Environmental Resources Management Department (Parks Department) to discuss maintaining the Hypoluxo Scrub Natural Area including the landscape, grant obtained for the concrete parking lot, and the wooden structures. Repairs over the last year have exceeded \$50,000 in expenses. Assurances were provided that the structures would remain, including the statutes, and wooden structure would be maintained in a safe condition. The County requested the Town execute a conservation easement which limits the use of the property and future development.

Town Attorney Rubin advised the Town still retains jurisdiction over the zoning and land use and would have to agree to any development changes. The Interlocal Agreement would remain in place for the entire parcel.

After discussion, it was the consensus to continue discussions regarding changing the Interlocal Agreement regarding terminating the lease with the County and turning over the maintenance to the County.

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#### **4. Information Items & Reports –**

**Budget – Comparison of Actual Expenditures and Income to Budget and Statement of Reserves-**

**Vice Mayor Roney moved to accept the financial reports as presented. Seconded by Councilmember Kahlert. Vote: Unanimous.**

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**5. Comments**

Mayor Brown announced a Town Meeting with Palm Beach County officials to discuss the proposed Library, August 29, 2023, at 6:00 PM.

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**ADJOURNMENT** – Mayor Brown adjourned the meeting at 7:59 P.M.

APPROVED THIS 20 DAY OF September, 2023.

ATTEST:

Michael Brown

Michael C. Brown, Mayor

ATTEST:

Dixie Gualtieri

Dixie Gualtieri, Deputy Town Clerk