

COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
2747 Sunset Blvd, Belleair Bluffs, FL 33770
Monday May 15, 2017

The Belleair Bluffs City Commission held a meeting Monday, May 15, 2017. The following answered roll call: Mayor Arbutine, Commissioners J. Barkley, T. Shimkus, S. Sofer, Attorney Trask, and City Clerk Debra Sullivan. Largo Fire Chief Willis and PCSO Sgt. Borland were also in attendance. The invocation was led by Attorney Trask. Commissioner Nazario had an excused absence.

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION DEBRA SULLIVAN, CITY CLERK 15 YEARS

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

Mayor –Discussions are on the agenda.

Administration/Finance – nothing to report

PCSO – Sgt. Borland reported on the events, noting 6 larcenies and a bank robbery at a local bank. The robber was apprehended.

Fire Department – Fire Chief Willis reported the hurricane season will begin on June 1st and suggested people have a 5 day supply of food, water and supplies stored.

Public Works Department - Commissioner Barkley stated all staff members are working diligently and everything is getting done. The fire station is rated for a CAT 5 Hurricane and is still on track to be completed in September. Commissioner Shimkus noted her family attended the Fire Ops Program put on by Largo Fire Department and thanked Chief Willis for a great event.

SPEAKER

Bonnie Trembulak, President of the Bluffs Business Association spoke about the upcoming Wine Walk which will be held on October 7, 2017. There will be more sign up locations and more visibility for the trolley stops. She will keep the Commission updated as they progress. *Consensus was given to approve the event.* The BBA will donate \$500.00 towards the July 4th event.

OLD BUSINESS

Sign Code Update – Attorney Trask is waiting for the report from Attorney Brinton.

OTHER

Mr. Jenkins asked the Commission to be mindful of the amount of senior citizens on a fixed income when they do vote on the utility tax.

Ms. Nyberg commented on the utility tax issue.

Ms. Stockwell requested budgetary information.

Mr. Ewart spoke against the utility tax.

Ms. Weimer spoke against the utility tax.

Ms. Steinel spoke against the utility tax.

Ms. Schwartzberg spoke against the utility tax.

Ms. Scarola spoke against the utility tax.

Ms. Reinhart spoke against the utility tax.

Mr. Shimkus spoke against the utility tax.

Mayor Arbutine explained the utility tax is a user tax which gives the homeowner the opportunity to control the amount that is taxed versus the ad valorem tax which is mandated. The city has road issues that may be dangerous and need to be addressed.

There being no further comments, the meeting adjourned

Respectfully Submitted,

Debra S. Sullivan

Debra S. Sullivan, MMC