



# Town of Belleair

901 Ponce de Leon Blvd.  
Belleair, FL 33756

## Meeting Minutes Town Commission

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Thursday, September 3, 2020

6:00 PM

Town Hall

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### First Budget Hearing

**Welcome. We are glad to have you join us. If you wish to speak, please use the “raise hand” function and wait to be recognized. If you are attending by phone, dial \*9 and you will be called by the last 4 digits of your phone number. Each person will be given 3 minutes to speak, you will need to unmute yourself in order to be heard.**

Meeting was called to order at 6:03 PM with Deputy Mayor Rettstatt presiding.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

### COMMISSIONER ROLL CALL

**Present:** 5 - Mayor Gary H. Katica  
Deputy Mayor Karla Rettstatt  
Commissioner Michael Wilkinson  
Commissioner Tom Shelly  
Commissioner Tom Kurey

### SCHEDULED PUBLIC HEARINGS

Persons are advised that, if they decide to appeal any decision made at this meeting/hearing, they will need a record of the proceedings, and, for such purposes, they may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

#### [20-0211](#)

#### Discussion of Millage Rate for the Fiscal Year 2020-2021

Mr. Murphy opened discussion regarding the TRIM process and setting the millage. He stated that staff was recommending maintaining the millage rate at 6.5000, greater than the roll back rate (6.1973) by 4.88%. This will require a notice of tax increase, only because of the additional revenues from property values increasing. The budget has been balanced at this millage, with some slight surplus being sent to reserves.

Mr. Murphy stated The certified total taxable value is \$881,358,623, a 7.9% increase over the prior year. The ad valorem revenues directly flow into the General Fund and Infrastructure Fund. The General Fund receives 5.2500 mills (\$4,442,050) and the Infrastructure Fun receives 1.2500 mills; General Fund total budget comes to \$7,041,485 The Town is maintaining compliance with the policy of maintaining 20% of the prior year expenditures as a fund balance.

Mr. Murphy continued by stating staff was still awaiting the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). As the budget has been forecasted for five years, the budget was approved in the prior year, but this year has of course been reconciled and will be approved again.

Mr. Murphy directed attention to the Town Wide 2020-2021 Budget document. The first page of the document summarizes each fund being balanced, as being a local government, this is a requirement. In Solid Waste, there are some reserves being utilized.

Commissioner Shelly commented about how the water rates within the Water Fund do not match the County's rates, asking if we are seeking to match these rates. Mr. Murphy stated that a rate adjustment should certainly occur sooner rather than later.

Mr. Murphy recommended going through each department on a high level, as the Commission and Town held multiple educational pieces and a workshop on the budget previously.

Mr. Murphy reviewed Administration, Building and Support Services- Administration - Personnel increases and \$93,940 of transfer to reserves. Building - largely remaining flat, aside from personnel increases. Building permit revenue returning to normal. Support Services - Large contractual increases as every year, due to fire services, general liability insurance, etc. This is the only department that did see a cut to personnel; chose not to fill the assistant finance director position. Staff will be inspecting how to handle customer service front facing side.

Mr. Murphy continued with the Police Department- personnel makes up most of the department; medical and pension cost which is a small increase; increase in training; reduction in Pinellas County Sheriff's contract due to lower crime rates in Belleair.

Mr. Murphy reviewed Public Works- the department worked hard on identifying multiple cuts (over \$20,000).

Mr. Murphy continued with the Recreation Department- total budget of \$805,000 with a revenue about \$503,000; COVID impacts; piloting new socially distanced programs, identifying how sports leagues look for next year. Mr. Allison and Mr. Murphy discussed tennis revenues and memberships; tennis instructors; outdoor pickle ball courts; discussed costs; level of services.

Deputy Mayor Rettstatt inquired about increasing tennis membership costs; important that the instructor's students have a membership card to the Recreation Center. Mr. Murphy and Mr. Allison discussed membership fees.

Commissioner Shelly stated we should move forward to increase rates. Commissioner Wilkinson also inquired about the tennis instructors. Commissioner Kurey agreed with the membership and taking lessons. Also agreed with the pickle ball conversion and raising fees; Mayor agreed as well.

Commissioner Kurey inquired on the revenues of Belleview and Pelican properties. Mr. Murphy provided comments.

**Commissioner Shelly moved tentative approval of Resolution 2020-18 adopting the millage rate of 6.5000 provided that 6.5000 is greater than the roll back rate of 6.19735 by 4.88%.**

**Seconded by Commissioner Kurey.**

**Aye:** 5 - Mayor Katica, Deputy Mayor Rettstatt, Commissioner Wilkinson, Commissioner Shelly, and Commissioner Kurey

[20-0210](#) First Budget Hearing - Adopting the Fiscal Year 2020-21 Town Budget

Mr. Murphy asked the Commission for a general consensus with the budget for staff to move forward and produce the final draft of the budget for approval on 9/17. It was the consensus of the Commission to move forward with the final draft for approval on 9/17.

Mr. Murphy commended Ms. Bernal on a great job done with the budget presentation.

### **CITIZENS COMMENTS**

(Discussion of items not on the agenda. Each speaker will be allowed 3 minutes to speak.)

No citizens comments

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

**Commissioner Shelly moved approval of the consent agenda. Seconded by Commissioner Kurey.**

**Aye:** 5 - Mayor Katica, Deputy Mayor Rettstatt, Commissioner Wilkinson, Commissioner Shelly, and Commissioner Kurey

[20-0212](#) Approval of August 13, 2020 Special Meeting and August 19, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes

[20-0209](#) Approval of Milling and Paving Contract for Sidewalk Crossing

[20-0216](#) Pinellas County Sheriff's Office Contact Renewal FY 20-21

### **GENERAL AGENDA**

### **STAFF REPORT**

[20-0217](#) Memo on Reclassification of Full Time Employee

Mr. Murphy provided brief overview of item; employee who works 30 hours a week still retain full benefits.

Commissioner Shelly agreed. Deputy Mayor Rettstatt stated that this is not out of the ordinary and supports it.

**Commissioner Shelly moved approval of the personnel changes memo, full time reduced as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Kurey.**

**Aye:** 5 - Mayor Katica, Deputy Mayor Rettstatt, Commissioner Wilkinson, Commissioner Shelly, and Commissioner Kurey

### **TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT**

Mr. Murphy spoke regarding Halloween - road closures around Meredith and Laurie Lane, COVID impacts; requested discussion along policy and guidelines.

Ricky Allison provided comments that no one is providing public gatherings right now, drive through trunk or treats are more the theme. Recreation Board will be discussing

options that could be limited to a small number of participants with residents prioritized first. Costume contest, decorating, games, Halloween themed movies, family friendly event on a limited scale (less than 100 people). No numbers yet identified.

Discussion ensued regarding ability to limit outside individuals from coming to large gatherings; police would disperse crowds; utilizing no parking signs to mitigate crowd; possible alternative Halloween events for residents.

Mr. Murphy stated he will reach out to the County Administrator to see what they're doing Deputy Mayor Rettstatt stated we are all on same page and need to be cautious.

Discussion ensued regarding canceling the first commission meeting in November because of the election. Mr. Murphy stated the Infrastructure board and Finance board will meet the week of 9th for meeting. Discussion ensued regarding having a special Town Hall meeting on water; first meeting on November 5 at 4:30 PM; regular Commission meeting on the 17th; second meeting on water will be on Tuesday November 10th at 6 PM.

Deputy Mayor asked when the Bluff trimming would take place; Mr. Allison is waiting on approval from the City of Clearwater.

Deputy Mayor Rettstatt questioned campaign sign regulations; Chief Doyle discussed requirements and compliance of signs. Mr. Murphy discussed temporary yard signs; and code enforcement requirements.

### **TOWN ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

Nothing to report

### **MAYOR AND COMMISSIONERS' REPORT/BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Commissioner Shelly - boards did not met; requested chief to talk about dogs off leash situation.

Chief Doyle issued notice to officers to enforce warnings and citations for dogs off leash; must identify individuals with dog off leashes and home address in order to track repeat offenders; experienced hostility from multiple residents when just informing residents; signage requiring dogs on leashes.

Deputy Mayor Rettstatt recommended Park and Tree Board to designate area for dog park. Chief recommended end of Bayview Drive as people will always go there despite it not being a dog park. Discussion ensued regarding fencing and having a dog park.

Commissioner Kurey - Infrastructure Board met and discussed water, much more discussion to be had; support for RO as well as some concerns.

Commissioner Wilkinson - Recreation Board met; commended retirement for Barry and very nice luncheon.

Mayor Katica - Thanked everyone.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

No further business

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Commissioner Wilkinson moved to adjourn. Seconded by Commissioner Shelly.**

**Aye:** 5 - Mayor Katica, Deputy Mayor Rettstatt, Commissioner Wilkinson, Commissioner Shelly,  
and Commissioner Kurey

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**TOWN CLERK**

**APPROVED:**

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**DEPUTY MAYOR**