



# Town of Belleair

901 Ponce de Leon Blvd.  
Belleair, FL 33756

## Meeting Minutes Town Commission

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Monday, September 20, 2021

6:00 PM

Town Hall

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### Second 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 6:00 PM with Mayor Wilkinson presiding.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

### COMMISSIONER ROLL CALL

Commissioner Shelly attended via zoom

**Present:** 4 - Mayor Michael Wilkinson  
Deputy Mayor Tom Kurey  
Commissioner Tom Shelly  
Commissioner Coleen Chaney

**Excused:** 1 - Commissioner Thomas Nessler

### 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.

[21-0289](#)

Resolution 2021-34: Adopting the Millage Rate for the Fiscal Year 2021-2022

Mayor stated this was the second reading; no questions from citizens to be heard.

JP Murphy-Town Manager-stated item will be discussed in conjunction with budget as they are related; millage is 6.500 which is 3.9% over rolled back rate; total taxable value in Town is \$953,102,892; discussed dedicated infrastructure fund; 8.42% increase in property values over the year; spoke on historical taxable values; the general fund is balanced, briefly reviewed revenues; departmental summaries provided.

No questions regarding general fund.

Mr. Murphy continued presentation by reviewing enterprise funds; still investigating long term water supply options.

Deputy Mayor Kurey noted expecting to hear from Pinellas County about water in

October.

Mr. Murphy spoke on solid waste department and rate increase; still exploring recycling options; addressed capital infrastructure; Penny for Pinellas funds, ARPA funds anticipated to be received soon; highlighted upcoming projects. No questions to be heard.

Mr. Murphy concluded presentation with discussion of the capital equipment replacement fund; draft of budget provided to Commission; will be available online once finalized.

No citizen comments.

**Deputy Mayor Kurey moved approval of Resolution 2021-34: Adopting the Millage Rate of 6.500 provided that 6.500 is greater than the roll back rate of 6.2560 by 3.9%. Seconded by Commissioner Chaney.**

**Aye:** 4 - Mayor Wilkinson, Deputy Mayor Kurey, Commissioner Shelly, and Commissioner Chaney

**Absent:** 1 - Commissioner Nessler

[21-0285](#)

Resolution 2021-35: Adopting 2021-2022 Operating and Capital Budget

**Deputy Mayor Kurey moved approval of the fiscal year 2021-2022 Budget for the Town of Belleair.**

**Aye:** 4 - Mayor Wilkinson, Deputy Mayor Kurey, Commissioner Shelly, and Commissioner Chaney

**Absent:** 1 - Commissioner Nessler

## **CITIZENS COMMENTS**

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

John Rich-spoke on ethics complaints filed by residents on December 4th, 2019; investigation is complete; complaints now public record; complaints contained elected officials and residents, foundations; state conducted extensive investigation; on September 10, 2021 Commission on Ethics issued report; represented Karla Rettstatt; read report findings; no violations found on any allegations; dismissed.

James MacArthur-resident-commented on dedicated service of Ms. Rettstatt and unfounded accusations.

Cheryl Franzese-resident-spoke on Ms. Rettstatt's extensive community service.

Lil Cromer-former resident-thanked Mayor and Commissioners for volunteering their time to community; commented on the investigation.

Gayle Grady-resident-commended leadership in the town.

Karla Rettstatt-spoke on decision to not run; questioned Deputy Mayor Kurey about property he once owned on Hibiscus and request of opinion from Ethics Commission regarding the Pelican Golf Club; thanked him for his service, spoke on residents here to support him against allegations.

Debra Marcellas-resident-spoke on concerns with unfounded allegations and length of time of investigations; planning to address legislature to require a probable cause hearing to protect against malicious allegations.

Mayor Wilkinson thanked everyone for their service.

John Rich spoke on Commission on Ethics and timeframe and COVID was a cause of delay; does not want to disparage the commission.

***Meeting recessed at 6:45 PM***

***Meeting reconvened at 6:55 PM***

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

**Deputy Mayor Kurey moved approval of the Consent Agenda. Seconded by Commissioner Chaney.**

**Aye:** 4 - Mayor Wilkinson, Deputy Mayor Kurey, Commissioner Shelly, and Commissioner Chaney

**Absent:** 1 - Commissioner Nessler

- [21-0287](#) Approval of September 7, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes
- [21-0279](#) Resolution 2021-36 Amending FY 2020-21 Budget
- [21-0288](#) Resolution 2021-37 - Appointing Teen Council Member to Park, Recreation and Tree Board
- [21-0290](#) Special Relief Permit for Puppies N Potion
- [21-0291](#) Special Relief Permit for Halloween Bash
- [21-0292](#) Special Relief Permit for Casino Night
- [21-0286](#) Florida City Government Week Proclamation

## **GENERAL AGENDA**

- [21-0293](#) Town Attorney RFP ADM21-2 - Responses

Mr. Murphy stated initial response period extended due to receiving less than 3 responses; two applicants received; stated that it would be up to the commission as to course of action; recommends interviews.

Mayor Wilkinson requested Commissioner Shelly to offer comments.

Commissioner Shelly would like to interview the Trask firm since we already know Gray

Robinson.

Commissioner Chaney in agreement with interviewing Trask; in favor of going to all electronic bids in future.

Deputy Mayor Kurey supports holding meeting prior to Commission meeting.

Mayor Wilkinson in support of having as an agenda item.

It was the consensus of the Commission to hold as first item on the October 19th meeting.

No resident comments.

#### [21-0294](#)

#### Discussion of Org Chart

Commissioner Chaney spoke on citizen comments and questions; requested Chief Doyle address duties regarding part-time officers.

Chief Doyle-spoke on 3 classes of officers FLDLE recognizes; part-time and non-active part-time; value of non-active positions filling departments that do not exist such as firearms, background screening, special invest; part-time also help in keeping overtime hours down; 6-12 months to hire and train a new officer; hiring experienced officers save in training dollars.

Mike Hugill-resident-thankful for comments.

Chief Doyle-spoke briefly on donations; growth of agency; gap in law enforcement applicants in county due to recent social climate.

Commissioner Chaney spoke on opportunity to refine internal hiring process; date of personnel policy and ability to refine; working with Town Manager to rewrite and update that policy.

Mr. Murphy commented on programs and functions and how they've moved.

Commissioner Chaney spoke on new positions and would like workload assessments.

### **STAFF REPORTS**

Chief Doyle-spoke on recent activity regarding power outage accident; burglary; police policy and procedure manual completed.

Deputy Mayor Kurey questioned truck incident; Chief Doyle provided information; asked what can be done. Mr. Murphy stated power line has been reset at 15ft, public works crew will check other lines in town; ultimately utility responsibility.

Cathy DeKarz - Nothing to report

Dave Brown - Nothing to report

Stefan Massol - Nothing to report

**TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT**

Mr. Murphy spoke on hole in Rosery Rd; sewer related, excavation ongoing; will be repaired.

Mr. Murphy stated there were a number of staff would be out for the 10/5 meeting and would like to cancel; Commission consensus to cancel; next meeting 10/19.

Mr. Murphy spoke on policy manual updating process; next are the final pieces and will be reviewed by labor attorney.

**TOWN ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

David Ottinger was not in attendance.

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

Commissioner Shelly- nothing to report; left meeting at 7:35 PM.

Deputy Mayor Kurey-spoke on RPD Board meeting; all JMC/Bellevue Place units have been sold, signs will need to come down; will be attending remotely for the 10/19 meeting.

Commissioner Chaney-Parks, Recreation and Tree Board met; upcoming events - Family golf tournament and Casino Night.

Mayor Wilkinson-Finance Board didn't meet; thanked staff and boards; introduced new reporter from The Bee; thanked recreation staff for flag football opening night.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

No other business

**ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned in due form at 7:39 PM.

**Deputy Mayor Kurey moved to adjourn. Seconded by Commissioner Chaney.**

**Aye:** 4 - Mayor Wilkinson, Deputy Mayor Kurey, Commissioner Shelly, and Commissioner Chaney

**Absent:** 1 - Commissioner Nessler

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**TOWN CLERK**

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**MAYOR**