



THE TOWN OF KENNETH CITY, FLORIDA

Council Meeting Minutes

October 13th, 2021

A. Call to Order

B. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

C. Roll Call

Councilmember Noble

Councilmember Cummings

Councilmember Roberts

Vice Mayor Zemaitis

Mayor Howell

Town Manager Cavalli

Attorney Mora

D. Consent Agenda

Mayor Howell opened the meeting by asking if the items on the consent agenda needed to be discussed. No discussion was had. Mayor Howell asked for a motion to approve consent agenda. Council Member Noble motioned to approve the consent agenda. Councilmember Zemaitis offered a second. All members were in favor.

E. Public Comment – formerly called Open Forum (limited to 3 minutes)

Ellen Dalbo – 4726 58th St N

Ms. Dalbo thanked the town manager for holding the town-wide garage sale. She suggested that the dates be extended from 2 days to 3 days.

Ms. Dalbo commented that she does not know why the sheriff's office answers when she calls the Kenneth City Police Department's non-emergency line. She stated that she believes there should be an after-hours line to call whatever officer is on duty, rather than calling the sheriff's department.

Mayor Howell thanked her for her comments, requested further comment from the public before closing public comment.

F. Presentation of Awards

1. Chief Eli Vasquez presented a plaque, thanking the Moose Lodge (#1145) for gifting the police department with 2 new police bikes. Chief Vasquez spoke about how the bikes will be of great value to the town and the PD. A representative from the Moose Lodge accepted the plaque and thanked his volunteers for supporting their efforts.
2. Chief Vasquez presented a plaque to Deputy Chief Vieno, honoring his 20 years of service to the town of Kenneth City. Chief Vasquez spoke about Deputy Chief Vieno's professional accomplishments as a police officer and a leader. Deputy Chief Vieno accepted the award. Town Manager, Pete Cavalli stood to

G. Forward Pinellas Presentation on Town Planning Efforts

Mayor Howell invited the town manager to introduce the executive director of Forward Pinellas (FP), Mr. Whit Blanton. Manager Cavalli shared some background information about the relationship the town has with FP. Mr. Blanton spoke about what FP is, their role and their designation as the Metropolitan Planning Organization. The designated entity "by federal and state statute that is responsible for deciding what are the priorities for transportation spending using federal and state dollars and county funds." FP is the agency that decides how those funds are spent. Mr. Blanton elaborated on what FP can provide the town of Kenneth City.

H. Action Agenda

1. Manager Cavalli shared with the council updates on the improvement plans to the VFW memorial located on 46th Avenue. Manager Cavalli reported that the county committed \$13,637.50 to the efforts to make the VFW memorial more ADA accessible while the town would be responsible for \$20,261. The county's support would pay for survey, mobilization, maintenance of traffic throughout the construction period, erosion and abatement, clearing, siding and sidewalk. The planned updates, if approved, would include relocation of the memorial rock (35 feet from the west, adjusted to be oriented to the south), landscaping, a sweeping ADA complaint sidewalk, installation of three lighted, 30-foot and 25-foot flagpoles. The three featured flags would be the state, country, and town. Manager Cavalli shared that this project is consistent with the council's expressed desire to improve the branding of the city, providing a more "finished look" to the recreational trail area. He shared that this project "incorporates aesthetics, safety, functionality and branding." Mayor Howell invited the council to discuss the project. There was some discussion regarding the expense to the town. Mr. Cavalli answered the questions posed by the mayor and town council regarding the budget and logistics.

The councilmembers shared their positions and Mayor Howell opened the floor to public discussion. No member of the public asked to speak. Mayor Howell asked for a consensus from council regarding the VFW memorial improvement plan. There was a unanimous agreement to proceed with the VFW memorial ADA improvements and beautification project.

2. Manager Cavalli asked the town council's approval to host a workshop on November 3rd to discuss chapter 54 and its implementation as well as Neighborly's *Meals on Wheels* request for support. There was some discussion on the scope and purpose of this workshop. Mayor Howell asked the council what their opinions were on Chapter 54. He asked for clarification regarding what they need to workshop. There was some discussion regarding how the data was gathered and what research went into the language of the ordinance. Councilmember Noble shared some of her concerns. Attorney Mora provided everyone at the meeting some history and background information surrounding chapter 54. Councilmember Roberts shared her thoughts regarding the need to workshop this ordinance and prepare the police department so that they understand the

codes they are enforcing. Mayor Howell asked each councilmember what they would want to change in the ordinance. Councilmember Zemaitis stated that we need “clarification on measurements” since there was some confusion. Councilmember Noble stated that we need to go to the residents to explain “what we’re doing.” Councilmember Cummings shared his concerns regarding the importance of separating the boat from the trailer in the measurement specifications. Mayor Howell said he does not want to see recreational vehicles or automobiles parked in the grass. He said he believes all vehicles need to be on a paved surface.

Manager Cavalli spoke to his comments and how these policies could potentially impact future plans for the town. Manager Cavalli also reminded the council that FP will be helping the town through this process and that they will be a part of the proposed workshop discussions. Manager Cavalli shared that the town residents will also be able to provide their input with regards to Chapter 54 through the survey designed by FP. Manager Cavalli asked the council to approve the scheduling of the workshop. Mayor Howell asked if all members agree to hold the workshop. All members agreed.

3. Manager Cavalli asked the council for a consensus to continue the contract with an existing auditor. Mayor Howell asked if there was anyone who wished to discuss the contract. Mayor Howell asked if there was any public comment. There was none. Mayor Howell asked the councilmembers for a consensus:

Councilmember Noble	Yes
Councilmember Cummings	Yes
Councilmember Roberts	No
Vice Mayor Zemaitis	Yes
Mayor Howell	Yes

A consensus was made.

I. Department Reports

Manager Cavalli presented updates on the public works department. He shared the department is trimming the oak trees on 46th Ave. He shared updates on several trainings the staff will be attending and a few upcoming projects. Councilmember Noble asked for clarification regarding the height the tree branches will be trimmed to. Public Works supervisor, Ken Moore said they plan to trim them to a height of 15 feet.

Manager provided updates on current projects he and his team are working on at town hall related to transportation, road sign survey, purchasing policy overhaul, using Pride Enterprises as a vendor, and using Pinellas County Fleet Maintenance to work on the town’s vehicles. Manager Cavalli closed his remarks asking the town council to solicit volunteers to join our boards.

Attorney Mora was invited to share updates regarding SIK Promotions. Their services were used in 2019 to host the town’s Fall Festival. The attorney asked the council if they wish to continue to use SIK Productions. There was a consensus that the town would not be using SIK Productions for any event going forward.

Manager Cavalli shared updates regarding the “Kmart Property.” There are a few prospects for development. Nothing finalized until November 1st.

J. Officer Reports

Town Clerk, Ana Cabezas shared with the council that she will be attending a Fall Conference next week

to begin the process to become a Certified Municipal Clerk.

Attorney Randy Mora shared that he will be attending the Florida Association of City and County Clerks next week as a presenter. He also shared that he will be maintaining office hours once a week at Town Hall. He stated that he will be meeting with town administrators to discuss code enforcement soon. Attorney Mora shared that he is also working on revising the personnel manual. A resolution to remove it from the Land Development Code is being written. He shared that he is also putting together resources for manager Cavalli to draft a new contract for our Solid Waste Removal.

Chief Elias Vasquez shared his department updates and statistics. Mayor Howell asked Chief Vasquez to attend the chapter 54 workshops to provide his feedback to the dialogue. Chief Vasquez said he would be there along with Sergeant Izrailov, who oversees complaints and citations.

Councilmember Roberts asked Chief Vasquez for clarification regarding the number of tickets issued in the town. Chief Vasquez explained his position. A brief discussion followed.

K. Mayor/Council Comments

Mayor Howell invited councilmembers to share thoughts and comments. Councilmember Noble shared that she is excited about the direction the town is moving in, the new “folks in here that have the expertise.” She expressed enthusiasm about the new trail work and prospects of making our town better. Councilmember Cummings said, “I agree.” Vice Mayor Zemaitis expressed enthusiasm about being able to set focus on things other than hiring.

L. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Vice Mayor Zemaitis
Second was made by Councilmember Noble
All in favor
Meeting was adjourned