



Municipal Service District of Ponte Vedra Beach
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MEETING MINUTES
JULY 10, 2023

The Trustees of the Municipal Service District held their monthly meeting on Monday, July 10th at the Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library – FOL Room at 5:30 p.m.

TRUSTEES PRESENT

Al Hollon – Chairman
Kitty Switkes – Vice Chairman
Rick Brown – Treasurer
Charles Callaghan - absent
John Cellucci
Brad Wester - absent
Michael White

Wayne Flowers – Attorney

Chairman Hollon called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. We will begin with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Chairman Hollon explained the public notice, order, conduct and civility.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Board of Trustees meeting minutes from June 12th were discussed. A motion was made to approve the minutes, they were seconded and unanimously carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Lex Dyer – 100 Pablo Road – Mr. Dyer reported that there are teenagers that are jumping off the Pablo Road bridge. It is very dangerous and I have called the police often. The boys are bullying the girls to jump off the bridge.

Sharon Dyer – 100 Pablo Road – Mrs. Dyer asked about all the trees that are getting cut down as she believes they add value to the land. Vice Chairman Switkes asked if she had any examples. She reported that the McGarvey home and another one down the street. The landowners can cut the trees down and then pay a \$500 fine. Chairman Hollon discussed the tree ordinance but it does not have the teeth that we need. Vice Chairman Switkes reported that she is correct as this is happening all the time. It is up to the county to control this and there are always loopholes.

Gayle Cooper – 219 San Juan Dr. – Ms. Cooper asked about resurfacing of San Juan Drive and Pablo Road. Now that we have flooding, should the flooding be fixed before the resurfacing? The one wastewater drain between 221-223 is owned by the PVIC and does not work. Is it the

responsibility of the county to fix the flooding and roads? Chairman Hollon reported that the county owns the road and the right of ways. Trustee White and Attorney Flowers are working on the drainage with the State. Hollon reported that he will talk to Gate about the drainage. Ms. Cooper reported that it is a ditch and then it goes into a drain that goes to the lagoon. She spoke with Mr. Kent at the county and he said it is private property and they cannot fix it. Ms. Cooper read the article where Trustee White said that we should put a Band-Aid on it.

TRUSTEE REPORTS

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT - CHAIRMAN HOLLON

REPUBLIC / SHERIFF PATROLS AND PAYMENTS

Chairman Hollon does not have any issues to report on Republic. On the Sheriff stats from last month, we had 61 citations mostly speeding and 141 warnings. Chairman Hollon reported that he is meeting with the patrol sergeant and to talk about increasing the deputy patrols on the weekend for the remainder of the summer. He reported that they need to increase the fine for illegal parking as most people report they will pay the \$40 parking fine to park at Micklers. Trustee Cellucci asked how many deputies are working Micklers that we are paying for? Chairman Hollon reported that they should be patrolling. Vice Chairman Switkes reported that on July 4th you were not allowed in Micklers if you were under 18 unless you were with an adult. She reported that she believes that is why the Ponte Vedra Club had an abundance of juveniles. Ms. Cooper reported that a lot of these young kids are Ubering to an access and then going to the Club.

JEA / LANDSCAPE – VICE CHAIRMAN SWITKES

Vice Chairman Switkes reported that the irrigation bill is good. She reported that she is going to try to get JEA to paint the fire hydrants again. The islands are good and going to have the palm trees trimmed. She reported that she received a bid for the trimming of the trees at San Juan and PVB and at 51 PVB there is a lot of landscaping obscuring the stop sign. She reported that she wants to clean up the east side of PVB and put in some drought tolerant plants and talk to the homeowner about using her water. She reported that she needs around \$2,500. This would be \$600 for the live oak trimming and \$1,900 for the cleanup at 50 PVB so that we can have a nice entrance to the MSD. Trustee Cellucci suggested putting in sprinklers at Merles Median. Vice Chairman Switkes reported that putting a meter is about \$2,700. Trustee White asked who owns this property? Vice Chairman Switkes reported that it is county right of way and the club used to take care of it. Trustee White suggested calling the club about the major clean up. Vice Chairman Switkes reported that they club is not going to take care of any right of way. Trustee White asked if there will be any ongoing cost? Vice Chairman Switkes reported that there should not be except for maintenance, however she would like to add some salt/drought tolerant plants there to give it some color. There is just a lot of stuff in there and it looks terrible. Trustee White reported that cleaning it up is great but you should not spend anything as we are hoping to get a sidewalk there. Trustee White thinks we should contact the club first. Vice Chairman Switkes reported that the Club abandoned the water meter but she has a good relationship with them and will contact Jay Reister. Treasurer Brown reported that there is plenty in the budget. Chairman Hollon made a motion to authorize an expenditure of \$2,500 to Ponte Vedra Palm LLC to clean up the palms and shrubs and prune the live oak at the intersection of PVB and San Juan Drive and 51 PVB. The motion was seconded and unanimously carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT / STREET SIGNS– TREASURER BROWN

Treasurer Brown reported we have accumulated \$1.06 million in the State account that is getting 5.33%. First Horizon now has offered us 5.125% from .08% now that we have moved the \$1million to the state. He reported that he submitted the Treasurer's Report. A motion was made to approve the Treasurer's Report, it was seconded and unanimously carried. He reported that he has nothing to report on the street signs.

BEACHES ENERGY / WEBSITE – TRUSTEE CALLAGHAN

Trustee Callaghan is absent and Vice Chairman Switkes reported that he forwarded her the report.

He reported that he has talked with Matt Brooks at Beaches Energy (BES) about the possibility of adding some new streetlights, fixing some lights that are not working and painting some of the existing poles. He sent Matt a request to look at 4 areas to be considered for a new streetlight. 531 Le Master Drive & Poinciana Way (by the island), Le Master Drive & Waterbridge Place - this is a middle school bus stop, Maria Place & Le Master Drive - this is a middle school bus stop and 33 Corona Road. In addition, we are still looking at the need for adding new lights at some middle school bus stops.

Matt said BES considers two things when looking at new locations for streetlights:

1. Accessibility - they need to be able to access the light with line trucks
2. Heavy utility vehicles and two power sources - there needs to be a power source within 8 - 10 feet of the new light. BES will not dig under a driveway, sidewalk, or street to run a line from the power source to the new light.

Street Light Maintenance has sent Matt a request to inspect and repair the following streetlights. These lights are not working and were not turned off for the Sea Turtle season.

- 340 Ponte Vedra Blvd.
- 531-532 Ponte Vedra Blvd.
- 930 Ponte Vedra Blvd.
- 934 Ponte Vedra Blvd.
- 1008 Ponte Vedra Blvd.

Painting Existing Poles Trustee Callaghan thanked Trustee Cellucci as he has identified 60 street light poles that have aged and need painting. Most of the streetlights are on Ponte Vedra Blvd and are in bad shape due to wind and salt. He reported that he had an extensive conversation with Matt Brooks about these light poles. Matt suggested that we should not paint them for the following reasons:

1. BES has started replacing old lights with new fiberglass poles and LED lights. They estimate that all the poles and lights will be replaced within the next 2 years.
2. Paint only lasts for a couple of months before it starts peeling and we might be painting poles that are soon to be replaced.

If the Board still wants to move forward with painting the light poles, Trustee Callaghan will get some quotes. He reported that Matt also said the most damage to the light poles comes from lawn maintenance crews weed eaters.

Regarding the website, the only change or addition to the website was updating the information for the San Juan Drive Sidewalk Town Hall scheduled for July 13.

NEWSLETTER / FLAGS / INSURANCE - TRUSTEE CELLUCCI

Trustee Cellucci reported that regarding the newsletter it is never too early to give me your information. The flags came down this morning and are going back up for Veterans Day. We put up 163 flags and the club put up 65. We coordinate with the Club and it looks great and is rewarding. Trustee Cellucci reported that he gave his budget number for the newsletter to Treasurer Brown. Chairman Hollon reported that he needs to determine how many households we will be using for the sanitation budget. Last year we used 1,403 households that have pick up. Trustee Cellucci reported that the number should decrease and asked if we are going to have another seven-year contract. Chairman Hollon reported that once he gets the number he will get with Republic. Trustee Cellucci reported that on the insurance he added 10% but will not know a good number until probably September.

BEACH AND SIDEWALK- TRUSTEE WESTER

Trustee Wester is absent. Vice Chairman Switkes reported that she called her friend Mary Ellen Daretta and got an update on the beach storm management. We did receive \$25 million from the state and \$8 million from the county. The site has been picked out for dredging and the MSTU for the homeowners is in place. Everything is in place for the restoration of the beach and they are wrapping up the bidding process. The estimate was \$40 million and the bids are coming in lower.

The homeowners on the ocean that agreed to the MSTU will only have to pay a small amount since they have money from the state and the county. The next step is the surveys will go out and the ocean front owners will have to sign new easements. They will start at north Guana and move to the Duval County line and should start in the spring of 2024. The county is to maintain the beach every few years and this will be funded through bed tax money. All these figures are for the MSD beaches and she would like the MSD to invite the county up to discuss the dredging project. Trustee White reported that if we were going to host something, we should try to time this once the surveys have gone out. Chairman Hollon asked if he knew when the survey is going to go out? Trustee White reported no.

TRUSTEE WHITE – CTTF / ROAD AND BRIDGE

Trustee White handed out his two maps to discuss no parking on San Juan Dr. due to the comments from the sidewalk meeting. He indicated road width and where there are no parking signs on the map. He would like to take this information and meet with the county staff to discuss it. We should also meet with the fire marshal regarding the width they need on the roads. Solana and Corona Roads are collector roads and are double stripped and do not need any no parking signs. Chairman Hollon reported that he met with Commissioner Joseph and Greg Caldwell and he said if we vote on no parking, they will put up the signs. Trustee White asked if we put these signs up, he thinks we should put them up on our decorative poles? Ms. Dyer asked about the ordinance on PV Blvd. and what it entails. Trustee White reviewed it for her.

CTTF is going well and a newsletter will be coming out soon and the results of the survey will be published soon.

Drainage is a long and complicated process and if we do not get grandfathered into draining to the lagoons it will be extremely difficult to fix any problems we have. You must follow the process and we are following the process. Trustee White reported that he is communicating with the county and engineers and now there is not any news. There was discussion about the land development code and easements.

ATTORNEY REPORT – ATTORNEY FLOWERS

Attorney Flowers reported that last month that the legislature passed a law that board members of Special Districts must have an annual of four hours of training in ethics, public records, and Sunshine Law. This law goes into effect January 2024.

Attorney Flowers reported that he is planning to retire at the end of the year and the board needs to start looking for legal counsel. Chairman Hollon asked if he could do anything on his own and he reported yes, but not planning on it but will give it some thought.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

JACK POPE POSITION – CHAIRMAN HOLLON

Chairman Hollon reported that he met with Lex Taylor and Commissioner Joseph last week to talk about this position. The hold up is the county attorney's office is reluctant to let a non-county employe go on-site. We have told them that we have liability insurance. Chairman Hollon asked if we could have a meeting with Howard White to get this off the ground and we would compensate them until we could get someone.

NEW BUSINESS

2023 BUDGET DISCUSSION – TREASURER BROWN

Treasurer Brown reported that he has only received budget numbers from Trustee Cellucci. He discussed the big numbers on the budget that need addressing. Chairman Hollon reported that the money for the lobbyist is for updating our Charter as we are restricted to spending only \$150,000 per capital project and the \$200,000 is for reserves. These numbers were chosen 20 years ago and need to be changed. The plan review has not been spent. The millage was .027 mills and he suggested

adopting that tonight knowing we can reduce it but cannot raise it. Chairman Hollon reported that he will meet with the Sheriff's office and get a better number. Chairman Hollon reported that at next month meeting we are going to discuss the sidewalk on San Juan and what side of the road. Vice Chairman Switkes asked if each segment of the sidewalk can have \$150,000. Chairman Hollon reported yes and the first segment will be from Solana Road to Miranda. They also reported that if we want no parking signs up, the county will put them up.

Attorney Flowers reported that the board did a review of the Charter which you have to do every 10 years. The board wanted to hire a lobbyist to amend the charter, but we missed the local delegation and had to wait another year. The money was budgeted and the session will meet this year and if the board wants to move forward, we should hire a lobbyist now and spend the money this year. Attorney Flowers reported that he will get quotes from a couple of firms. Trustee Cellucci asked if we can spend this money this fiscal year. Attorney Flowers reported yes. Chairman Hollon reported that what we want the wording to say is \$150,000 or 25% of the budget whichever is greater for capital projects and for the reserves \$200,000 or 25% of the budget whichever is greater. Attorney Flowers reported that for the new board members the process is that a tentative rate must be voted on by the board in July so that the property appraiser can send out to all homeowners their assessment. We will have two budget meetings in September with the first being our regularly scheduled meeting to vote on a draft budget. We then have the final budget meeting on September 20th. Chairman Hollon made a motion to set the millage rate at .027, it was seconded and unanimously carried.

CONSIDERATION OF THE PONTE VEDRA CORPORATION PUD APPLICATION – CHAIRMAN HOLLON

Chairman Hollon reported that as a board we have no authority to approve or disapprove what they are doing but we have had a good relationship with them and it is good to be on the right side of the process. Chairman Hollon reported that he supports what they are doing and as a board thinks we should vote on it but since two board members are absent, we should wait till next meeting. Vice Chairman Switkes reported that she thinks it is our responsibility to get the information out regarding the meetings being held and the PUD application by e-mail blasts and website. Trustee White suggests putting the dates and a link to the PUD. Vice Chairman Switkes reported that she will forward Trustee Callaghan the information and the link.

Lori Wells – asked if you are elected officials why would you not take a stand for what the public wants. Chairman Hollon reported that at times we have conflicting views. Ms. Wells asked why you do not survey the community as to what they want as this will have a huge impact on the community. Chairman Hollon reported that we have to decide what we think is best for the community.

BRIDGE PRESSURE WASHING – VICE CHAIRMAN SWITKES

Vice Chairman Switkes reported that she received three bids to pressure wash the three bridges. One for \$2,800, one for \$2,400 and one for \$800. The \$800 is Aaron's Pressure washing and comes highly recommended. Vice Chairman Switkes asked for \$1,000 as she would like to add the monument at A1A and Corona. Chairman Hollon made a motion to approve the pressure washing of all three bridges and the monument by Aaron's pressure washing. It was seconded and unanimously carried.

KEY DATES

County Commissioners meetings July 18th and August 1st
Phase 1 Sidewalk Discussion – July 13th Our Lady Star of the Sea @ 5:30pm
Next MSD meeting will be August 14th at 5:30pm FOL room PVB Branch Library

ADJOURN

A motion was made to adjourn; it was seconded and unanimously carried.
Submitted, Ann Jurenovich, MSD Secretary

