



***Municipal Service District of Ponte Vedra Beach***  
***P.O. Box 1323 Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida 32004-1323***  
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**MEETING MINUTES**  
**JUNE 10, 2024**

The Trustees of the Municipal Service District held their monthly meeting on Monday, June 10<sup>th</sup> at Ponte Vedra Branch Library at 5:30 PM.

**TRUSTEES PRESENT**

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

Wayne Flowers – Attorney

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

Vice Chairman Switkes reported that Chairman Hollon could not be here tonight and welcomed Commissioner Joseph.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The Board of Trustees regular meeting minutes from May 13<sup>th</sup> were discussed. A motion was made to approve the minutes, they were seconded and unanimously carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Denis Abromavage – 530 Morning Side Drive - Mr. Abromavage came to the meeting for an update on the drainage issue at my home in the back yard where the yard is collapsing. Trustee White reported on his rear yard that has an old drainpipe that is totally corroded/collapsed and compromised that leads to a drainpipe that goes to the lagoon on Le Master. The county has said it is not their pipe they do not maintain it. Trustee White reported that this is exactly what we discussed at the last meeting about filing something where there are missing drainage easements throughout the neighborhood that needs an owner to maintain them. The long-term way to solve this problem is to get easements and the drainage ditch behind him to be maintained by the county. There was discussion about the drainage easement on Le Master and the drainage pipe running through his back yard coming from the neighbor's yard. Commissioner Joseph asked who Mr. Abromavage talked to

at the county. Mr. Abromavage reported that he has multiple e-mails with the county that he will share with her. Commissioner Joseph reported that she will look into this as this sounds like a hazard.

### **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT - CHAIRMAN HOLLON REPUBLIC / SHERIFF PATROLS AND PAYMENTS**

Chairman Hollon is absent this evening but provided the board with his report. Sheriff Report from last month there were 53 citations and 165 warnings. There have been reports of deputies requiring construction or U-Haul vehicles to relocate. There have been a few instances of expired tags and driver's licenses. Just about all entries concern traffic enforcement. He reported that he requested a copy of the accident report regarding the incident on Solana recently when a speed limit sign was hit. Tragically, the driver died in the hospital. The report was or is being prepared by FHP. Once this report is received we will send a copy of the accident report, a photo of the sign and the invoice to the driver's insurance company.

Republic: I have scheduled a conference call next Friday with a supervisor from FCC Environmental regarding household trash pickup and will ask for the existing service to continue. We will need to enter into a contract with them once we have an agreement approved by the Board.

He asked Attorney Flowers to advise Vicky Oakes of the Charter Amendments affecting the terms of office, which he has done.

### **JEA / LANDSCAPE – VICE CHAIRMAN SWITKES**

Vice Chairman Switkes reported that the water bill was a little higher this month and mostly from Waterbridge. The backflow preventors are being tested this month. She reported that she contacted the pressure washer used last year and he will pressure wash the bridge at Corona and the bollards at Solana. It will be under \$500. Regarding landscaping we will plant some summer colors soon, the palm trees will be trimmed this month and Sunset Park has been mowed.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT / STREET SIGNS– TREASURER BROWN**

Treasurer Brown reported that the beginning balance in Prime money market was \$1.245 million with transfers out and interest earned the ending balance was \$1.2 million. The beginning balance in the First Horizon checking account was \$29,366 and the ending balance was \$35,286. There were no extraordinary items this month. No activity on the signs. Scott Pearson – 180 San Juan asked about the budget and the open items you have for the sidewalks and asked if you expect to spend that this budget year. Treasurer Brown reported on the sidewalks, no and Attorney Flowers reported that we are waiting on the county to come back to us about that amount. Vice Chairman Switkes reported that Trustee Wester is not here tonight, but he reported that he has given everything to the county. Mr. Pearson reported that he asks this as last year it was carried over in the budget. Trustee White reported that we have about \$75,000 or preliminary soft costs leading up to the sidewalk we can advance now and like Attorney Flowers reported we have other soft costs. Trustee White reported that we might be rolling over some of the costs because you can see how long this takes. Mr. Pearson asked about how these costs will affect lowering the millage rate. Vice Chairman Switkes asked for a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously carried.

### **BEACHES ENERGY / WEBSITE – TRUSTEE CALLAGHAN**

Trustee Callaghan reported he has spoken with Beaches Energy (BE) and has some good and bad news. The good news is that they have plenty of poles in stock and they are getting the light fixtures in next week. The bad news is they have their maintenance and financial numbers together for review, but the review process is still going on and hope to have their final numbers in by August. Due to this there are no new poles or replacements going up. The maintenance of the poles and getting them painted or replaced they always discourage us to paint them and have not received a schedule of the replacement of the poles. We will provide BE with a list of poles on the Blvd. that

need replacement when Trustee Cellucci puts up the flags for 4<sup>th</sup> of July. He reported that he received a complaint that the streetlight on the Blvd. is too bright and shining in their bedroom window. He reported that he will go by the address before he makes a recommendation to BE. On the website, the information was sent to the web master about the public hearing to be posted for no parking on San Juan. Lori Wells - 545 Lake Road reported that at last meeting she asked that something be posted about public safety on the website regarding how people walking on the road should walk into traffic and people bicycling should bike with traffic. Trustee Callaghan reported that he had not done that, and it was his mistake not to follow up. He sent something to the Ponte Vedra Community Association to get their brochure to put on the website and he did not follow up. Scott Pearson reported that he saw deputies writing tickets on San Juan since the no parking signs were put up. Kudos to them. Scott Pearson reported that he will send Trustee Callaghan the information on street safety. Vice Chairman Switkes reported that IQ Fiber will be in the neighborhood starting in the middle of June and will start on the Blvd. installing a new option to fiber optics. Commissioner Joseph asked Vice Chairman Switkes to send her the information she received regarding IQ Fiber.

### **NEWSLETTER / FLAGS / INSURANCE - TRUSTEE CELLUCCI**

Trustee Cellucci reported that he is getting insurance quotes, but it looks like we are going to get a 10% increase. Looking for any photos for the newsletter and reported he received one from the secretary of the new Solana Road beach walkover. The library has reopened, and this library is very active with friends of the library with over 500 members. He suggested joining to support your library. He reported that the flags are up and will put them back up for the July 4<sup>th</sup> week. Someone from the audience asked about having flags on other streets like Rutile or San Juan. He said if there is some neighborhood participation it helps with fund raising and is happy to work with anyone who would like to do this on Rutile or San Juan.

### **BEACH AND SIDEWALK- TRUSTEE WESTER**

Trustee Wester is absent tonight but sent in his report that Micklers Landing beach and parking will be closed June 13-21 and again June 24-28 for the continued, but accelerated, beach renourishment. The Micklers Landing area is the last segment of renourishment. According to the county contractor he is two months ahead of schedule and weather permitting anticipates completion by the end of June. June 24-28 is the planned demobilization of equipment. The beach renourishment added 40-120 feet of sand width overall to the northern beaches of Ponte Vedra Beach.

The San Juan Drive parking ordinance is scheduled for the July 8 PVZAB hearing and August 6 at the BCC hearing. Trustee Wester reported that he will present the matter to each Board for the MSD. Legal ads will be posted and run in the Ponte Vedra Recorder and St. Augustine Record on June 13. It should also be posted on our website already as this was requested a few weeks ago.

No update on the sidewalk matter. More to come soon.

Lori Wells reported that the new beach walkovers are awesome, but they now have a step up/step down and they possibly need some type of reflective tape. Trustee White reported that there is no contrast to the step and especially the step down. Ms. Wells reported that this is at Solana Road access and the one by Trustee White's house. Trustee White reported that the ones with pavers there is a step up to the beach walkover. Trustee White reported that he will write it up and see if the county can do something.

### **TRUSTEE REPORTS**

#### **TRUSTEE WHITE – CTTF / ROAD AND BRIDGE**

Trustee White reported that the CTTF has nothing new to report. He reported that months ago he brought forward the Eisman and Russo (E&R) survey and the county said that we could use E&R to do additional surveys on Solana and San Juan. He went to the county to let them know that the board supports him moving forward with surveys regarding drainage on San Juan before the sidewalk is

being built and the county said that they are not sure if we can join E&R to extend the feasibility study and that the county procurement department might have to do a new RFP. He asked the county to go to the procurement office and he has not heard back. Attorney Flowers reported that he will contact the county to see if we can piggyback on their existing contract or do we need to do a separate solicitation. Trustee White reported that if they will not let us piggyback then we will have to solicit. Attorney Flowers reported that unfortunately, under the consultant competitive negotiation act which is two-step process to judge qualifications without price and then choose based on rank and then based on qualification and then negotiate price. Trustee White hopes to get us back on track with the county and wants to keep the board apprised.

Trustee White reported that he has a list of the missing easements around the neighborhood and old easements that are not platted and will give them to Attorney Flowers. Trustee White reported that we need to produce a report that itemizes unmaintained easements for everyone to look at before we move forward.

Trustee White reported that as it relates to the water quality of the lagoons and the midge flies, the PVIC are supportive of coming up with a holistic solution to eliminate the midge flies. This starts with a water quality test which will cost \$925. Trustee White believes there is a path for drainage where the water quality of the lagoon will be improved if we can increase the oxygen level in the lagoons. Commissioner Joseph thought that the PVIC and Lodge owned the lagoons. Attorney Flowers reported that they own the bottom, but they are waters of the state. Scott Pearson reported that PVIC are using the lagoon water for irrigation. Trustee White reported that the county holds the permits for the drainage of all the lagoons. The PVIC does not have maintenance responsibilities of the lagoon but have to approve anything done to the water in the lagoon system. The first step is to test the water and then see if we have an environmental leg to stand on with the St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD) to make the water draining into the Guana better. Vice Chairman asked will they test every lagoon? Trustee White reported that they will take several samples to look for nutrients and oxygen in the water. Lori Wells reported that people who live on the lagoon not only use the lagoon water to water their lawns, but they also pump water into the lagoons. An audience member suggested that there are some fish that eat the midge flies and have you investigated that. Trustee White reported that you have to have oxygenated water for fish to live. Vice Chairman Switkes asked after we test the water, what would be the second step? Trustee White reported that he would meet with the county and the SJRWMD and have them confirm that a solution would affect the long-term water quality for the lagoon system. A motion was made to move forward with Solitude Lake Maintenance for water testing services not to exceed \$1,000 for water quality testing of Lake Ponte Vedra. It was seconded and unanimously carried.

#### **ATTORNEY REPORT – ATTORNEY FLOWERS**

Attorney Flowers reported that on May 17<sup>th</sup> the governor signed the bill that approved the term limits and he reported he made the supervisor of elections aware. He reported that qualifying ends this week.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

##### **JACK POPE POSITION – CHAIRMAN HOLLON**

Chairman Hollon is absent but reported that he has an outstanding request to Joy Andrews for a sit down to discuss this issue. He reported that he feels as though we will get somewhere but needs to keep pursuing it.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

##### **2024 BUDGET DISCUSSION**

Treasurer Brown reported that he sent out a spreadsheet with actuals vs. budget and has a working spreadsheet with the numbers received from Attorney Flowers. Secretary Jurenovich has not received any budget numbers yet. Vice Chairman Switkes asked Attorney Flowers what we are required to do tonight. Attorney Flowers reported that nothing tonight but at the next meeting you

will need to adopt a tentative millage and in August adopt a tentative budget. Regarding the millage, you can always lower the millage, but you cannot raise it once you adopt a tentative millage. Trustee Cellucci asked about the contingency reserves. It is a percentage of the budget and the \$150,000 is for capital projects. Trustee Callaghan asked when the tentative budget needs to be on the website. Attorney Flowers reported that it needs to be up 72 hours in advance of the meeting where you will adopt the budget. It needs to be posted after the August meeting.

Scott Pearson reported that there will be a candidate forum on June 25<sup>th</sup> in this room for state, senate, and representative candidates. On July 9<sup>th</sup> at Christ Church there will be a county commissioner forum not a debate. Hats off to Palm Valley for getting this done.

### **KEY DATES**

County Commissioners Meetings – June 18<sup>th</sup>

Next MSD meeting will be July 8<sup>th</sup> at the Ponte Vedra Branch Library at 5:30pm

### **ADJOURN**

A motion was made to adjourn; it was seconded and unanimously carried.

Submitted, Ann Jurenovich, MSD Secretary