

**MINUTES**  
**CITY OF INDIAN ROCKS BEACH**  
**CITY COMMISSION MEETING**  
**TUESDAY, JUNE 4, 2024- 6:00 PM**  
**1507 BAY PALM BOULEVARD INDIAN ROCKS BEACH, FL 33785**

Mayor-Commissioner Houseberg called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Mayor-Commissioner Denise Houseberg, Vice-Mayor Commissioner Janet Wilson, Commissioner John Bigelow, Commissioner Hope Wyant and Commissioner Jude Bond via cellphone.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** City Attorney Randy Mora, City Manager Gregg Mims, and City Clerk Lorin Kornijtschuk.

For continuity, items are listed in agenda order, although not necessarily discussed in that order.

**1 A. REPORT OF Pinellas County Sheriff's Office.**

A PCSO representative stated the month's report was not ready due to the change in the meeting date. He asked the commission if there were any questions. There was not.

**1 B. REPORT OF Pinellas Suncoast Fire & Rescue District.**

Pinellas Suncoast Fire & Rescue District Fire Chief Jeffrey Davidson reviewed the fire district's monthly report. PSFRD brought a new watercraft for viewing. He stated a new fire truck should be arriving mid- August.

Commissioner Bigelow asked the Fire Chief where the new Fire Station will be in Indian Rocks Beach. Fire Chief stated Gulf Boulevard and 24<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

**2. PUBLIC COMMENTS.**

David Gardella, 2207 Bay Boulevard and 2307 Bay Boulevard, stated he has issues with the amount of no parking signs that have been erected.

Resident at 126 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue, stated she has noticed more tourists in the last couple of weeks and the City has a problem with the trash. She notices the city staff coming out to clean out the trash, but the trash bins are not enough, they are overflowing.

Mayor-Commissioner Houseberg closed the Public Comment.

**3 A. REPORT OF the City Attorney.**

City Attorney Mora stated, there are still several bills the Governor has not signed, including Senate Bill 280 concerning short-term rental regulations.

**3 B. REPORT OF the City Manager.**

City Manager, Gregg Mims provided his written report:

Operating Projects: Entrance sign and the pavilions at Brown Park, Nature Preserve and 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue have been painted.

Capital Equipment: The City received and placed into service one replacement Public Works flatbed truck, one regular Public Works full size truck and one midsize truck for Code Enforcement. The garbage truck ordered in April of 2023 is scheduled to be delivered in July.

Drainage Projects: Two drainage projects funded by American Rescue Plan funds are underway. 454 & 456 Harbor Drive N. and 444 & 446 Harbor Drive N. include water quality treatment units. Two SWFMD Project completed at 208 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 601 2<sup>nd</sup> Street. Each project includes water quality treatment units.

Gulf Boulevard Undergrounding Phase II Project funded by Pinellas County has begun, between 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue. The overall project is from 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue to 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue and is expected to be completed within another year.

Hurricane Season has begun. The City works under the umbrella of Pinellas County. Evacuation decisions are made by the County. When evacuation orders are given, everyone should leave. He stated that sandbags are not going to do much for storm surge, but the City will continue to make those available. The City has six contracts with six debris removal companies and two debris monitoring firms. The City piggy backed under Pinellas County debris removal contracts. He stated that the City is ready to deal with whatever we are delt with during the hurricane season.

2024/2025 Budget Process: City Manager Mims stated that he and Dan Carpenter, the Finance Director, are completing the updates to the five-year Capital Improvement Plan, and it will be forwarded to the City Commission and Finance Budget Review Committee before June 17. The next milestone date will be the delivery of the General Fund and Solid Waste Budgets on or before July 3. After the draft budgets are delivered, he and Dan will meet with each Commissioner individually to go over the proposed budget.

4<sup>th</sup> of July: The City Manager stated there will be extra deputies and code enforcement to enforce the fireworks law that the City has. He also stated that it is turtle season and that is another reason fireworks should not be used.

City Manager addressed the residents' concern regarding the overflowing trash cans. He stated he is working with the Public Services Director, Dean Scharmen, for a solution, and he authorized a purchase for additional trash cans that will be placed at each beach access.

He also thanked the Commission, IRB Team Members, and the public for the outreach during his mother's passing.

### **3 C. REPORT OF the City Commission.**

Commissioner Wyant stated the Food Pantry needs donations and is also looking for help unloading the donations.

Vice-Mayor Commissioner Wilson stated that she agrees with City Manager Mims that sandbags are not the answer to storm surge. She stated a presentation was done on home flood mitigation at the at the last Big-C meeting and would like to have the same presentation done at one of the next IRB Regular City Commission Meetings.

Commissioner Bigelow stated the IRB Rotary is having their Flag for Service Memorial on June 14<sup>th</sup> at Chic-A-Si Park, and the City is hosting a Blood Drive on June 15<sup>th</sup> in front of City Hall. He stated that he will be having a discussion with the City Manager to discuss paid parking.

Mayor-Commissioner Houseberg stated that her and the City Manager met with Senator Nick DeCeglie today to discuss Indian Rocks Beach projects that the state can fund.

**4. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS.** None.

City Attorney Randy Mora read Consent Agenda 5 A through 5 I.

**5. CONSENT AGENDA:**

- A. APPROVAL OF** the May 14, 2024, City Commission Meeting Minutes.
- B. REAPPOINTMENT OF Karen O'Donnell** to the Board of Adjustment and Appeals for a three-year term, expiring June 30, 2027.
- C. PROCLAMATION:** June 2024 LGBTQ Pride Month.

**Motion by Vice-Mayor Commissioner Wilson, seconded by Commissioner Bond to approve the agenda Items 5 A through 5 C. Vote taken: Unanimous approval by acclamation.**

- 6. PUBLIC HEARINGS:** None.
- 7. OTHER LEGISLATIVE MATTERS:** None.
- 8. WORKSHOP:** None.
- 9. OTHER BUSINESS:** None.
- 10. ADJOURNMENT.**

**Motion was made by Vice-Mayor Commissioner Wilson and seconded by Commissioner Bigelow adjourn at 6:30 p.m.**