

**FORT MYERS BEACH
TOWN COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING
MAY 7, 1998**
NationsBank Building, Council Chambers
2523 Estero Boulevard
FORT MYERS BEACH, FLORIDA

I CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Anita T. Cereceda opened the meeting on Thursday, May 7, 1998 at 6:32 P.M. Present at the meeting were: Mayor Cereceda; Council Members Ray Murphy, Garr Reynolds, and John Mulholland; Town Manager Marsha Segal-George; Deputy Town Manager John Gucciardo; and Town Attorney Richard Roosa.

II PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All assembled recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

III ACCEPTANCE OF RESIGNATION OF COUNCIL MEMBER TED FITZSIMONS

Mayor Cereceda stated that pursuant to the Town Charter, this meeting has been called to accept the resignation of Council Member Ted FitzSimons.

Motion: Mr. Murphy moved and Mr. Mulholland seconded that the resignation of Mr. FitzSimons be accepted. The motion passed unanimously.

IV DISCUSSION OF OPTIONS FOR FILLING SEAT VACANCY

Mayor Cereceda stated that according to the Town Charter, it is the Council's responsibility to fill the vacancy. After discussing it with Mr. Roosa, she suggested the following format: each Council Member will nominate a candidate, preferably someone who is already familiar with the Comprehensive Plan or who can be brought up to speed quickly, because the next meeting will be the public hearing on that Plan. The names of those candidates must be submitted by next Thursday so they can be published in the agenda for the May 18 meeting. At the meeting, each candidate will have 5 minutes to make a presentation to the Council. The Council will hold a secret ballot, with each member voting for two candidates. The candidate with the most votes will receive a nomination. The council will then vote on that candidate, and if they receive a majority, they will be seated. If there is not a majority, the procedure will be held again. The person appointed will serve for 7 months, and then that seat will be up for election in November. The person elected in the November election will be for the unexpired term (two years.) She also suggested that the new vice mayor be elected at the May 18 meeting as well. (The vice mayor cannot be elected at this meeting because it was not advertised as an agenda item.) The council agreed that the plan was acceptable.

Motion: Mr. Mulholland moved and Mr. Murphy seconded that the above plan be implemented. The motion passed unanimously.

V ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:38 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy Salfen
Recording Secretary