

**FORT MYERS BEACH  
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
FEBRUARY 28, 2005  
Town Hall-Council Chambers  
2523 Estero Blvd.  
FORT MYERS BEACH, FLORIDA 33931**

- I. CALL TO ORDER:** The regular meeting of the Fort Myers Beach Town Council was called to order on Monday, February 28, 2005 at 6:30 p.m. by Mayor Bill Thomas.

**Members present at the meeting:** Mayor Bill Thomas, Vice Mayor Garr Reynolds, Councilman Don Massucco, Councilman Howard Rynearson, Councilman Bill Van Duzer.

**Excused absence from the meeting:** None

**Staff present at the meeting:** Town Manager Marsha Segal George, Town Manager John Gucciardo, Town Attorney Richard Roosa, Public Services Director Matt Feeney, Mound House Director Theresa Schober

- I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** All those present assembled and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

- II. INVOCATION- DEACON “SCOOP” KIESEL, CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION.**

- IV. PROCLAMATION OF MARCH AS BRAIN AWARENESS MONTH**

Denise Loomis was present to accept the Proclamation. She gave a brief description of the work done in brain research supported by the Pilot Club International and the Pilot Club of Fort Myers Beach. Mayor Thomas thanked the Pilot Club for all the services rendered to the Town of Fort Myers Beach and declared the Month of March as Brain Awareness Month.

- V. INTRODUCTION OF ANGELO VAUGH’S REPLACEMENT**

Corporal Jim Laler was introduced as Angelo’s replacement on Fort Myers Beach.

- VI. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Pat DeVincent of 160 Bahia Via asked the Council to set an early election date.

Bill Shenko, Jr of 581 Carlos Circle stated four main issues of concern:

1. Separate the role of Town Clerk and Town Manager Segal-George.

2. Town Manager Segal-George is not entitled to overtime pay as a result of Hurricane Charley since she is not an hourly employee.
3. He disagreed with the hiring of a public relations consultant.
4. In executive session, the Town Manager Segal-George offered to resign if she were paid the severance listed in her contract. He asked if the offer was still open.

Eddie Foster of 2440 Cottage Avenue asked if notes were being taken during public comment. She indicated that her previously voiced concerns did not reap any results.

1. She asked that a garbage can be placed at every bench.
2. She pointed out that the homeless are still an issue.
3. She expressed concern that the demolition of the Holmes House could cause rats to affect her home.
4. Asked why Mayor Thomas did not attend the Beach Re-nourishment Workshop.

Pat Smith of 50 Fairview expressed concern on the following:

1. She disagreed with several statements and actions described in the transcript of the Executive Sessions.
2. She disagreed with Ordinances 05-04 and 05-05.
3. She did not understand how the Council decides who is going to be Mayor and Vice Mayor and why it is not the people who decide.
4. She asked that the Town Attorney resign.
5. She mentioned the Town Manager Segal-George's willingness to resign as expressed in the Executive Session transcript.

Jerry Sawyer of 111 Anchorage Street made the comparison of the smell (stench) from a bar in San Francisco to the moral stench he experiences at Town Hall. He questioned the need for law enforcement presence at Town Hall.

## **VII. CONSENT AGENDA**

### **A. Request to Extend Town Tree Program**

**Motion to extend the town tree program was made by Councilman Rynearson and seconded by Councilman Van Duzer.**

**DISCUSSION:** The Council expressed their satisfaction with the success of the Tree Program and extended their thanks to the Garden Club and those who participated in the program.

**VOTE:** passed unanimously

### **B. Financials for the month of January**

**Motion to accept the financials for the month of January made by Councilman Van Duzer and seconded by Councilman Rynearson.**

**DISCUSSION:** Vice Mayor Reynolds said that he had some questions but he would meet with Deputy Manager John Gucciardo.

**VOTE:** passed unanimously

**VIII. ADMINISTRATIVE AGENDA**

**A. Recommendation of Mound House Garage Renovation Bid**

**Motion to accept the bid for the amount not to exceed \$163,780 which removes the 10% contingency made by Councilman Rynearson and seconded by Councilman Van Duzer.**

**DISCUSSION:** Councilman Massucco asked Ms. Schober to elaborate a bit more as to what this bid includes. Ms. Schober explained that the renovation includes ADA bathroom facilities and administrative offices.

Vice Mayor Reynolds acknowledged that the cost seems a little exhorbitant but that the project needed to be done and the project was advertised twice.

Councilman Van Duzer repeated that the project includes more than renovating a garage. It includes ADA bathrooms, administrative offices and the renovation has to be sensitive in keeping an antique look. He also expressed concern that the contractor and sub-contractors are not local businesses. Ms. Schober explained that they had tried to get local contractors but were unsuccessful.

Councilman Massucco asked if there “was a light at the end of the tunnel?” Ms. Schober explained that they have 3 big capital improvement projects: 1) roof repair after Hurricane Gabrielle; 2) electrical upgrade; 3) and now the garage renovation. She continued to explain the sources of funding available and that they are in the process of completing a Restoration Plan which is only 90% complete. The historic preservation of the Mound House maybe complete by 2008-2010. Councilman Massucco questioned if the kayak tours are the only source of income at this time. Ms. Schober affirmed that this was the only source at this time. There may be more in the future and assure the Council that the Town’s investment in the project serves as catch match for future grant funding.

Vice Mayor Reynolds asked how many times she had advertised to secure bids. Ms. Schober responded that they had advertised on two different occasions. Vice Mayor Reynolds asked that if there was more time to allow for a longer time to respond (14 days) would there be more bidders. Ms. Schober answered that in this case more time did not yield more bidders.

**VOTE:** motion passed unanimously

**B. Waterways Cleanup from Hurricane Charley**

1. Madera Canal Excavation Bid
2. Aquatic Debris Removal Bid

Matt Feeney, Public Services Director presented the three bids for Aquatic Debris Removal:

1. Smitty's Marine Towing in the amount of \$124,000
2. Kelly Brothers, Inc. in the amount of \$108,600
3. Jay Jackson and Associates for \$91,300

Although Jay Jackson and Associates have proposed the lowest bid, they do not have the necessary certifications for the job. Therefore, staff recommends the second lowest bid given by Kelly Brothers in the amount of \$108,600.

Staff presented the following three bids for Medera Canal Excavation:

1. Coastal Group Services for \$94,700
2. Kelly Brothers, Inc. for \$68,700
3. Marine Contracting Group, Inc. for \$55,250
4. Stemic Enterprises, Inc. for \$49,000

Staff recommends Stemic Enterprises, Inc not to exceed \$49,000.

**Motion to accept Kelly Brothers, Inc bid for \$108,600 for Aquatic Debris Removal and Stemic Enterprises, Inc for \$49,000 for the Medera Canal Excavation made by Councilman Rynearson and seconded by Councilman Van Duzer.**

**DISCUSSION:** Councilman Massucco asked why there was such a disparity between the lowest and highest bids. Was there anything missing? Matt responded that the highest bidder has a unique type of equipment they use and they are located in Tampa. That company could not get haulers at a lower cost. The other companies use standard dredging equipment. He also explained that the debris is trucked off site determined by the contractor.

Councilman Van Duzer asked about how many known locations. Matt stated that they have 10 identified sites. They too dispose of the debris off Island.

Mayor Thomas asked how many vessels and canals. The answer was 10 vessels and 10 canals and the contract is for 3 days on site.

Vice Mayor Reynolds asked how far does this cover in the bay. Matt explained that the work is done within the Town's boundaries. When questioned about who is paying for this, Matt explained that this cost is assumed by U.S Department of Agriculture because it is directly related to storm damage.

**VOTE: motion passed unanimously**

**C. Public Hearings of:**

1. Ordinance 05-02-Toll Referendum-Town Attorney Richard Roosa read the heading of the ordinance. He explained that this was a hearing for adoption. Mayor Thomas opened the public hearing. Unidentified speaker expressed concern about setting an election date and that this time was being wasted.

Councilman Massucco assured the audience that this will put the toll issue to rest by stating it clearly in the Charter where it can be seen in print.

Vice Mayor Reynolds read the simple and direct statement of what will go on the very next election. It will read “The council may impose road or bridge tolls only after approval by the electors, as provided by general law.”

Town Manager Segal-George reminded the audience that they must come to the microphone if they wanted to be on the record.

Councilman Van Duzer re-emphasized that during a public hearing the audience needs to come to the podium to speak to the issue. Hearing no more comments from the audience, Mayor Thomas closed the public hearing.

**Motion to adopt Ordinance 05-02, with the understanding that it will go to referendum on the next election was made by Councilman Rynearson and Seconded by Councilman Van Duzer.**

**ROLL CALL:**

Councilman Rynearson –aye

Councilman Van Duzer-aye

Vice Mayor Reynolds-aye

Councilman Massucco-aye

Mayor Thomas- aye

**Motion passed unanimously**

2. Ordinance 05-03 Change from Primary Elections to Run-Off-Town Attorney  
Richard Roosa read the heading of the ordinance. Mayor Thomas opened public hearing.

Charles Meador stated that he did not understand the need for this ordinance since the original Charter provides for a run-off election.

Pat Smith asked if there is a date on this ordinance. Town Attorney stated that there is no date stated in this ordinance. With no more questions from the audience, Mayor Thomas closed the public hearing.

**DISCUSSION:** Councilman Van Duzer asked the reason why is this change being made at this time. Town Attorney Richard Roosa explained that the original Charter provided for a run-off. However, a previous council saw a need to have a primary instead of a run-off when elections were held in November so as to avoid to have a run-off in December. An ordinance was passed and brought to referendum and passed. The people voted to change to a primary election.

Vice Mayor Reynolds stated that he did not recall that going to referendum. Town Manager Segal-George recalled that it was passed in 2000. Mayor Thomas requested the documentation that certifies this referendum.

Councilman Van Duzer wanted to clarify this issue further. He expressed his understanding by stating that the original charter defined the election as a run-off; council decided to go to a primary when election time was in November and went to referendum; then council changed to a run-off when elections were held in March; this was done without referendum. This ordinance now corrects the problem and sends it to referendum. Town Attorney responded by restating what he said earlier. Mayor Thomas re-iterated the need for the documentation of this referendum. Town Manager Segal-George assured that this will be provided to council. Councilman Van Duzer suggested that since this ordinance which changed the mode of election was withdrawn, doesn't that say that it was legal. Town Attorney reminded Councilman Van Duzer that the ordinance was withdrawn by the plaintiff, not the judge.

Vice Mayor Reynolds stated that this is what makes this ordinance so difficult to understand and asked if it could be done at a different time than this election. He also pointed out that it refers to a March election. He asked if this is being done for the future. Town Attorney responded that this is being done for the future. After this coming election, future elections will be done in March.

**Motion to move the item was made by Councilman Ryneanson and seconded by Councilman Van Duzer with the understanding that it is going to referendum.**

**ROLL CALL:**

- Councilman Ryneanson-aye
- Councilman Van Duzer-aye
- Vice Mayor Reynolds-aye
- Councilman Massucco-aye
- Mayor Thomas-aye

**Motion passed unanimously**

- 3. Ordinance 05-04 Reorganization of Mayor and Vice Mayor – Town Attorney read the ordinance heading. Mayor Thomas opened the public hearing. With no one coming forward from the public, public hearing was closed.

**Motion to move the item was made by Councilman Ryneanson and seconded by Councilman Van Duzer.**

**DISCUSSION:** Councilman Massucco quoted section 4.02 from the Ordinance. He questioned that if we do not elect a Mayor and Vice Mayor that we will not have a mayor or vice mayor until the election in November. Town Attorney Dick Roosa referred Councilman Massucco to section A. and B. of the Ordinance. The purpose of this ordinance is to change the re-election of mayor and vice mayor from November to March. Councilman Massucco questioned the origin of that language. Whether it was new for this election. Town Attorney Dick Roosa

explained that this was in the original ordinance when elections were held in November. Councilman Massucco understood that there does not need to an election to re-elect a new mayor.

Vice Mayor Reynolds stated that from what he can see there is only one change which is changing the election of mayor and vice mayor from November to March. Vice Mayor Reynolds emphasized that this is not a non-election year since we will be having an election this year. Town Attorney explained that the purpose of this amendment is to allow for the election of a mayor and vice-mayor every approximately twelve months. So every year there is an election for a mayor and vice mayor. According to the ordinance this should have happened last November but it didn't happen because the council had not elected a mayor that had served a full year. Vice Mayor Reynolds stressed that this is not a non-election year. This is an old council and if we elect a mayor and vice mayor we would have to select a mayor and vice mayor again after the election. We should be electing a mayor and vice mayor when there is a new council in place. It is an election year as I see it. Town Attorney responded that this is a matter of policy to be determined by the Council. What this ordinance does is interpret your Charter provision. Its intent was to limit the mayor and vice mayor term to not more than one year. Vice Mayor Reynolds stressed that this is not a non-election year. Town Attorney further explained that the Mayor has served for a year at this time. Vice Mayor Reynolds again stated that this ordinance should not be enacted until after the election when a new mayor and vice mayor will be elected.

Councilman Rynearson said that if we do this now it assures us that there will be a mayor and vice mayor until we have an election. After the election we can reorganize at that time. It makes everything legal.

Vice Mayor Reynolds expressed his opposition to reorganizing before the election since it will be necessary to select the mayor and vice mayor after the election. The ordinance should remain the same for the time being.

Councilman Van Duzer referred to sections 4.02 and 4.03 of the ordinance when the re-organizing comes at the first council meeting after a regular election. This coming election is a special election. The ordinance assures that the mayor and vice mayor serve for a one year term. This is a special election called to correct a problem. After this election, the ordinance will fit every other year after this time.

Vice Mayor Reynolds reminded the Council that he and the Mayor have not served for a full year.

**ROLL CALL:**

Councilman Rynearson-aye  
Councilman Van Duzer-aye  
Vice Mayor Reynolds-nay  
Councilman Massucco-nay

Mayor Thomas-aye

**motion passed 3-2**

4. Ordinance 05-05 Setting of Election Date- Town Attorney Richard Roosa read the heading of the ordinance. Mayor Thomas opened the public hearing.

Pat Smith came forward and asked the Council to set the earliest possible date to hold an election. She stated that if other municipalities can do it, there is no reason why this Town cannot do it. She also stated that ordinance 05-04 which was just passed is totally unnecessary. It should be passed at a later date after the election.

Tom Babcock of Williams Drive equated the last ordinance passed as making a clerical change in the Charter. He asked the Council to consider the ramifications of ordinance 05-05 which is seemingly incomplete in addressing the transition issues and the terms of office for the newly elected. He also acknowledged that no one has declared whether or not a run-off is illegal. It was unfortunate that the plaintiff did not pursue ordinance 01-03. He encouraged the Council to get a legal opinion and ended with recognizing that the Town Attorney is hired by the Town for giving a legal opinion.

Ron James asked if we are going to have an election or not. He expressed his frustration at the delay for this to happen and the need for armed guards.

Jamie Diaz encouraged the Council to get this election done. He expressed that the residents were feeling disenfranchised over this problem. He asked that we acknowledge mistakes made and work together to resolve them. He expressed his appreciation to Councilman Massucco and Vice Mayor Reynolds for being more in touch with what the residents want. He also acknowledged that all of the Council may need to get together to get the problems resolved.

Hearing no further comments Mayor Thomas closed the public hearing.

**Motion to hold the election on the second Tuesday in November and a primary in October was made by Councilman Rynearson and seconded by Councilman Van Duzer.**

**DISCUSSION:** Vice Mayor Reynolds asked that the ordinance 05-05 to set the election date for the first Tuesday in May with a run-off election the second Tuesday in June. He emphasized that there is no need to delay this election any further. We need to get on with Town business and expressed a hope that the Council would defeat the motion previously made.

Councilman Massucco expressed full support of Vice Mayor Reynold's proposal. He expressed that it will demand a lot of effort from everyone, staff, Town Manager Segal-George, and Council and the people of this Town. He expressed that with ES&S and everyone working together that we can have a Spring

election. Mayor Thomas responded that if the May election proposal is better than the November proposal and the people want it, then he would go along with it.

Councilman Van Duzer reported that he too attended the meeting with the Supervisor of Elections along with Councilman Massucco. He also indicated that he was the one to recommend investigating what all is entailed in running an election. It became clear to him that there were many more details involved in running an election than what ES&S proposed. His greatest concern was to have an election that cannot be contested. We would be better served by having the Election Office run the election. He expressed concern that we proceed cautiously. Judge Corbin in his final judgement did not set the date of an election. He did say that we must have an election and this will happen. He believes that we will be better served by having the election in November run by the Election Office.

Councilman Rynearson indicated that if the election is held in November there may be other entities that will help defray the cost. Massucco responded that the cost is immaterial if it will help to restore peace to the Island. Vice Mayor asked Councilman Van Duzer if he would withdraw his motion from the motion made by Councilman Rynearson. Councilman Van Duzer responded “no.”

**ROLL CALL: (on the first motion)**

Councilman Rynearson-aye

Councilman Van Duzer –aye

Councilman Massucco-nay

Vice Mayor -nay

Mayor Thomas-nay

**motion failed 3-2**

**Motion to hold a special election on the first Tuesday in May and a run-off if needed on the second Tuesday in June was made by Vice Mayor Reynolds and seconded by Councilman Massucco.**

**DISCUSSION:** Councilman Van Duzer asked to discuss the dates since June 21<sup>st</sup> was the earliest that an election could be held. Rachel Lambert, Administrative Services Director came forward to present the election code statutes. She confirmed that May 3 was the earliest for a Primary and that June 21<sup>st</sup> was the earliest for an election.

Mayor Thomas announced that he has changed his vote. Town Manager Segal-George informed the Council that there is a procedure they must follow. There is a motion and a second on the floor. We need to vote roll call and then if the Mayor wants he can move to reconsider. This was verified with the Town Attorney.

Vice Mayor Reynolds asked the Mayor not to reconsider since this is what the residents want. Mayor Thomas responded that his first vote was an error that he wants to correct.

**ROLL CALL: (on the second motion)**

Vice Mayor Reynolds-aye  
Councilman Massucco-aye  
Councilman Rynearson-nay  
Councilman Van Duzer-nay  
Mayor Thomas-nay

**motion failed 3-2**

**Motion to table this until next week was made by Vice Mayor Reynolds and did not receive a second.**

The Town Attorney explained that a motion to reconsider must be made by one who voted in the affirmative in the majority of the first motion.

**Motion to reconsider the November election date was made by Mayor Thomas and seconded by Councilman Rynearson.**

**VOTE to reconsider: motion passed 4-1**

**Motion to adopt Ordinance 05-05 with the November election date was made by Mayor Thomas and seconded by Councilman Rynearson.**

**DISCUSSION:** Vice Mayor Reynolds explained why he voted in favor of the motion to reconsider in the hopes that another councilman might reconsider his vote. Councilman Van Duzer asked to recall Rachel Lambert. Rachel Lambert returned to the podium and verified that the Supervisor of Elections had offered to hold the primary in September and the election in October as a possible alternative. At this time the Mayor explained that he had made an error in his vote and wished to correct it. Councilman Van Duzer explained that having it in September would be poor timing just as it would be in June. Mayor Thomas acknowledged that he made a mistake in his initial vote and that this issue would now be settled had he not.

Councilman Massucco made the observation that the display he witnessed tonight when he rode into the parking lot was a good representation of what the people want.

**ROLL CALL:**

Mayor Thomas-aye  
Councilman Rynearson-aye  
Councilman Massucco-nay  
Vice Mayor Reynolds-nay  
Councilman Van Duzer-aye

**motion passed 3-2**

**(Council takes a 10-minute break)**

**D. Introduction of Draft Ordinance 05-06 – Authorized Bid Opening**

Town Attorney Dick Roosa clarified that this is not an introduction. It is only a draft and that he was looking for direction from the Council to write this ordinance. Councilman Rynearson asked Councilman Van Duzer to repeat what he suggested in the last meeting. Councilman Van Duzer suggested that the bid opening should be in the presence of the Town Manager Segal-George or designee and the Town Clerk or designee. This should handle other situations in the future.

Councilman Van Duzer put this in a form of a motion and it was seconded by Councilman Rynearson. A voice vote was called for with four ‘yes’ and one ‘no.’

**VOTE: Motion passed 4-1.** This will come back for an introduction of a formal ordinance.

**E. Appointment of Two New Members to the Anchorage Advisory Committee**

Members of the Council submitted their ballots for the appointment of two candidates for Anchorage Advisory Committee. During the counting of the votes Councilman Massucco remarked how impressed he was with the quality of all the resumes submitted. Mayor Thomas also commented on the resumes on recent applicants to various town committees. Vice Mayor also referred to Councilman Massucco’s comments and added his admiration of the quality of the applications. At this time the Town Manager Segal-George announced the two new members of the Anchorage Advisory Committee were: Robert Beasley and Jeff Werner. Jeff Werner was present at the meeting and was recognized by the Council and the audience.

**F. Town Manager Segal-George’s Evaluation**

The Town Manager Segal-George referred to the memo and list of accomplishments she included in the Council Packets. She stressed her many accomplishments as well as that of her staff. She also referred to this passing year being one of the most stressful time she has experienced in her over 25 years of experience. She explained that she is entitled to a merit bonus and that she and her staff do not receive a cost of living increase or automatic step increases as is common in many government entities. Periodically pay ranges are reviewed and are adjusted based on the market. The only increases are given through merit bonuses, which are given in lump sum and are not added to the base. The Town Manager Segal-George pointed out that the Fire Chief, Manager of Sanibel, and Bonita Springs earn more than she does. She is not asking for a wage increase, but she is requesting an 8% salary bonus. It was pointed out that merit bonuses are a budgeted item.

The Town Manager Segal-George also pointed out the list of projects that she and her staff accomplished amidst some very trying times due to the hurricane season experienced last summer. In spite of heavy workloads, staff continued to work toward securing mitigation dollars and keeping on-going projects moving forward. The listing of projects are on-line as part of the council packet.

In closing, the Town Manager Segal-George explained that she did not have time to respond to all of the accusations launched at her. If she did that, she would not have time to move so many of the projects forward and serve the town as she is accustomed to doing.

Councilman Van Duzer explained that he had done the evaluation of the Town Manager Segal-George and it is now part of the public record and available to anyone who wishes to review it.

**Motion to approve 8% merit bonus (\$9,440) made by Councilman Van Duzer and seconded by Councilman Rynearson.**

**DISCUSSION:** Councilman Rynearson explained that he seconded the motion because he was here throughout the hurricane and attested to the fact that the Town Manager Segal-George did a fantastic job.

Councilman Massucco acknowledged that the Town Manager Segal-George and staff did a good job and that the list of accomplishments is extensive. There is a great deal of activities and projects going on on this Island. However, because of the overtime already approved for work done during the hurricane, he would support a 3% bonus, not 8%.

Vice Mayor Reynolds expressed that he thought that 8% is excessive in light of the \$15,000 already received for overtime worked during Hurricane Charley. He believes that someone with a contract is not entitled to overtime pay. He pointed out that many of the accomplishments listed are part of everyone's job. He does not believe that this motion should be voted on before everyone has had a chance to read all of the evaluations.

Mayor Thomas reported that he asked each councilman submit an evaluation. He had received only 3 out of the 5. He stated that when he first met the Town Manager Segal-George, he did not like her. However, as he watched her in doing her job and how she handled the hurricane issues, he felt that she has done an excellent job. He asked how much the Bonita Springs and Sanibel Managers received. The response from the Town Manager Segal-George was \$131,000 and \$160,000 respectively. The Mayor stated that he would support the 8% bonus because she deserved it.

Councilman Rynearson announced that he had reviewed the 3 evaluations submitted and that they were all very high evaluations. He based his support of this bonus on these evaluations.

Vice Mayor Reynolds responded that he was unable to get to his mailbox tonight. He assumed that these were to be turned in tonight. The Mayor explained that it should have been turned in earlier. However, Vice Mayor understood that they were due tonight.

Councilman Van Duzer said that he did not base his decision on any other evaluation except his own. He based his motion on the worth of the work of the Town Manager Segal-George. She is worth the 8% bonus she requested.

Councilman Massucco also understood that the evaluation was to be turned in tonight. He apologized for having left it at home and for not turning it in. He will turn it in as soon as he can.

Councilman Van Duzer confirmed the fact that the evaluation was to be turned in on February 28<sup>th</sup>.

Mayor Thomas asked if everyone was ready to vote on the motion. Vice Mayor Reynolds said that he was not ready since he had not read the other evaluations.

**VOTE: motion passed 3-2**

#### **G. Matanzas Pass Bridge Trolley Lane**

Town Manager Segal-George expressed that it is nice to speak about something that is positive and exciting. The express lane on Matanzas Bridge is a key piece to our traffic problems. FDOT and Lee County have agreed to create the lane on a trial basis, which hopefully will become permanent.

The creating of this lane has a cost of \$70,000. Lee County has agreed to split the cost with the Town. We are requesting the Council to approve \$35,000. As you know the Park & Ride is running a full capacity and this express trolley lane will help to alleviate some of the traffic congestion. Councilman Rynearson asked if that money could come from the \$500,000 grant. Town Manager Segal-George was not sure if that would be an allowable expense and that a budget for that grant had not yet been formulated. She did state that the Capital Improvement Budget has money for this project.

Councilman Massucco questioned the parking at Summerlin Square. Town Manager Segal-George informed the council that the town is working on finding additional parking space either at the driving range which is now closed and finding designated areas for parking.

**Motion to approve \$35,000 for the Matanzas Bridge Express Lane was made by Mayor Thomas and seconded by Councilman Rynearson.**

**VOTE: motion passed unanimously**

**COUNCIL MEMBER ITEMS AND REPORTS**

Councilman Van Duzer- reminded everyone about the Shrimp Festival and the Relay for Life which is a fund raiser for Cancer Research.

Councilman Massucco explained that the death of a Little League player postponed the opening night for the Little League season. It will be rescheduled. He offered the Town's condolences to the family.

Councilman Rynearson commented on the visit of the Clydesdale visit to the Town.

Mayor Thomas said that he was planning on participating in the Shrimp Festival Parade this year.

Vice Mayor Reynolds explained the reasons why he did not support the package presented by Mr. Jerry Murphy's request to bring on new staff members. He also expressed concern over the handling of a complaint received from a resident requesting that the mowing of the Mound House lawn not be done on Sunday. The Vice Mayor inquired about his W2-Form and requested the policy concerning advance payment. He has also received some inquiries regarding the Laguna Shores Project and hopes that these concerns will be followed up by staff. The Vice Mayor attend Lovers' Key dedication of the children's playground and also participated in the FMB Treasure of the Beach Home Tour. He complimented the Woman's Club for providing such a fine tour.

**TOWN MANAGER'S ITEMS (none)**

**TOWN ATTORNEY'S ITEMS (none)**

**PUBLIC COMMENT (none)**

Motion to adjourn at 10:04.

Respectfully submitted by

Rachel Lambert, Interim Transcriber