

**FINAL MINUTES AND AGENDA
TOWN OF JUPITER
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS
TUESDAY, JANUARY 16, 2024**

Mayor Kuretski called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

Roll Call: Mayor Jim Kuretski; Vice-Mayor Ron Delaney; Councilor Andy Fore; Councilor Cameron May; Councilor Malise Sundstrom; Town Manager Frank Kitzerow; Town Attorney Thomas J. Baird and Deputy Town Clerk Stephanie Proffer.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Mr. Bryan Balcer, resident of Summer Avenue, discussed his concern regarding a cat infestation issue in his neighborhood.

Ms. Denise Carlo, resident of Berkshire Avenue, expressed her concern regarding a cat issue in her community and asked Council for their assistance.

Mr. John Zadjura, resident of Summer Avenue, spoke about a cat problem in his neighborhood and asked Council to modify the Town code.

Mr. Wayne Posner, resident of Carina Drive, suggested members of Council receive a raise. He also mentioned improving Dolphin Drive

Mr. Brett Leone, resident of Barbados Drive, mentioned his concern about minutes, lighting at various intersections and e-bikes. He also proposed the Town purchase a plaque honoring prior members of Council.

Mayor Kuretski stated no changes have been made to the synopsis or minutes process.

Ms. Karen Vinson, resident of Sioux Street, stated she did not support building a new fire station on Indian Creek Park.

Mr. Andy Weston, resident of Dolphin Drive, spoke about improving Dolphin Drive and suggested building a fire station on the Town campus.

Ms. Jen Kleier, resident of Berkshire Avenue, stated she supported Palm Beach County Fire Rescue (PBCFR) and discussed her concerns regarding Jupiter Fire Rescue Department (JFRD).

Ms. Cindy Loth, resident of 154th Road North, spoke about an encounter she had with a Jupiter police officer.

MINUTES

1. December 19, 2023 Town Council Meeting Minutes.

Councilor Fore moved to approve December 19, 2023 Town Council Meeting Minutes; seconded by Vice-Mayor Delaney; motion passed.

Kuretski
Yes

Delaney
Yes

Fore
Yes

May
Yes

Sundstrom
Yes

CONSENT AGENDA

All items listed in this portion of the agenda are considered routine by the Town Council and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Councilor or citizen so requests; in which event, the item will be removed and considered at the beginning of the regular agenda.

- Councilor Fore pulled item 4.

Vice-Mayor Delaney moved to approve the Consent Agenda, as amended; seconded by Councilor May; motion passed.

Kuretski	Delaney	Fore	May	Sundstrom
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

PUBLIC BUSINESS

2. **Resolution 116-23**, Approval of Contract Award to Johnson-Davis, Inc. for Toney Penna Water Transmissions Valve Replacements in the amount of \$342,600.
3. Approval of a Purchase Order for New Vehicles for the Public Works, Building and Utilities Departments.
4. Approval of Police Department Ford F150 outfitting of previously authorized purchase.
MOVED TO REGULAR AGENDA
5. Approval of purchase order for new Fire Department Vehicle Purchase – Fire Chief.

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA TO REGULAR AGENDA

4. Approval of Police Department Ford F150 outfitting of previously authorized purchase.

Councilor Fore asked if the communication system being purchased would communicate between Jupiter Police Department (JPD) and Jupiter Fire Rescue Department (JFRD).

Chief England said the radio system can be linked to any department through Northcomm and would be able to communicate with each other.

Councilor Fore moved to approve the Police Department Ford F150 outfitting of previously authorized purchase; seconded by Councilor Sundstrom; motion passed.

Kuretski	Delaney	Fore	May	Sundstrom
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

REGULAR AGENDA

6. **Resolution 06-24**, Approval of Work Order Number 47 to EPW 2016-12D to Wantman Group, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$253,477.31 for the Design and Construction Criteria Package and Site Approval for the Fire Station and Park Improvements at Piatt Place.

Thomas Hernandez, Director of Engineering and Public Works, gave a brief presentation concerning the Piatt Place Fire Station and park improvements which included site approval, a design and construction criteria package, and milestones to achieve after the work order authorization.

REGULAR AGENDA

6. Resolution 06-24

Councilor May asked what the demolition cost would be for the current structure.

Mr. Hernandez said it would cost a little over 1 million dollars.

Councilor May asked if it was included in the Fire Department budget.

Mr. Hernandez said it would be included in the overall cost and a portion would come out of that budget.

Councilor May asked how *many* mangroves needed to be removed. SP 2/6/24

Mr. Hernandez said there was no set number but wetland delineation and impacts would be reviewed as a part of the design and construction criteria package.

Councilor May asked if the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) could deny it.

Mr. Hernandez said he did not expect them to.

Councilor Sundstrom said her only question was answered previously and acknowledged the Wantman Group would not be able to bid on the project after they provided the preliminary designs.

Mr. Hernandez clarified the demolition cost would actually be 1.8 million.

Councilor Delaney said all his questions were answered.

Councilor Fore noted the demolition cost seemed large until he realized it was a 60,000 square foot structure, he clarified that regardless of what was built there, demolition would have to happen.

Councilor Fore said Wantman Group was a highly competent firm and was disappointed they wouldn't be able to bid on the design and build part. He asked if they could be saved for that part and use another firm for the preliminary part.

Mr. Hernandez said he had several firms he could use and said they are a qualified firm that he felt was the best option.

Councilor Fore asked if any surveys had been done yet and if any wetlands were affected.

Mr. Hernandez said the survey process was just beginning and unsure if any would be affected and noted the main area affected would be the parking structure portion.

Councilor Fore asked if we were allowed to give any weight in request for quotes (RFQ's) to local firms.

Mr. Hernandez said he would have to check the Florida Statutes.

REGULAR AGENDA

6. Resolution 06-24

Wayne Posner, resident of Carina Drive, thanked the Town Manager for hiring a great Fire Chief. He noted the Town negotiated with the County for 10 months and said the Political Action Committee (PAC) was funded by the Union and only one resident had put money to the PAC. He said 1 million dollars is a lot of money for the Town to spend for demolition and knew a developer who would be willing to trade properties and said it was worth looking into.

Karen Vinson, resident of Sioux Street, said many of her questions were answered during the presentation. She asked if there would be a citizens committee put together in regards to the new fire stations. She asked why there was not an open bid for the project.

Brett Leone, resident of Barbados Drive, acknowledged the previous public comment from Mr. Posner and said it could be an option. He noted Palm Beach County Fire Rescue (PBCFR) station is across the street from Piatt Place. Mr. Leone said the property could be sold to a developer and they could pay 1.8 million to demo and then asked Council to seek alternative options.

Kristen Henry, resident of Majorca Way, said she was still opposed to creating the fire department and felt it was redundant to have another firehouse in the area. Ms. Henry shared her concerns with having diesel trucks in an environmentally sensitive area and expressed safety concerns.

Mayor Kuretski said he did support what was being presented and noted the strategic plan concerning the use of Piatt Place was separate from JFRD. He stated he believed the right solution would be for the Town to acquire the Burt Reynolds station and said the Town had asked the County and was told no. Mayor Kuretski noted no decision was being made tonight, the Town was just moving to the next logical step.

Mayor Kuretski explained the fire station would consume one third of the property and two thirds would become a park with the proposed plan. He said he planned to speak with the County again and acknowledged that trading properties may be an option. Mayor Kuretski also said he believed the Public did not want a multi-story development on the property, that's why the site plan included a park.

Councilor May stated his concern with the amount of mitigation it would take to develop the property. He noted that his strategic priority for Piatt Place was to make it a park and received pushback due to the cost of demolition. Councilor May said he appreciated the park portion of the plan but felt there was more the Town could do for the Public and does not support it.

Councilor Sundstrom stated Piatt Place was a long-time strategic item and had been receptive to Councilor May's idea of turning it into a park but wanted to maintain options moving forward. She explained they were in the initial stages of the process and does support the idea of a park and a fire station. Councilor Sundstrom said she agreed that it would be ideal to work with the County in partnership with Station 18 and was grateful for feedback as it was early enough to take into consideration.

REGULAR AGENDA

6. Resolution 06-24

Vice-Mayor Delaney said he had been approached by several developers over the years that wanted to put a hotel or a worldwide headquarters on that property. He said the Town has a need and Piatt Place was a good location for what is needed. He acknowledged things may change throughout the process as this was the first step.

Councilor Fore stated he assumed that property would always become a park and felt that potentially trading it or selling it to someone would be very expensive and they would want to build the property out. He said the options were to turn it into a park or a park and fire station. Councilor Fore said his concern was diesel fuel and the run off in that area but was supportive of this initial step but not much more beyond that until the environmental questions could be answered.

Councilor Sundstrom said the study would help answer many of the questions asked and that was why she thought it was a necessary first step.

Vice-Mayor Delaney moved to approve Resolution 06-24; seconded by Councilor Fore; motion passed.

Kuretski
Yes

Delaney
Yes

Fore
Yes

May
No

Sundstrom
Yes

PRESENTATION

7. Annual Traffic Presentation.

Mr. Thomas Hernandez, Director of Engineering gave a presentation regarding the strategic initiative of mobility and traffic mitigation strategies.

Mayor Kuretski discussed the study report done by Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) and was pleased that FDOT would be providing funding.

Mr. CJ Lan, Traffic Engineer, gave an overview of the Town's Traffic Condition including Critical Arterial Segments and Level of Service (LOS) on Indiantown Road. He reviewed 2022 Town wide LOS, Reliability vs. Congestion on Indiantown Road and Post Implementation Safety Evaluation.

Councilor May stated he loved the Central Boulevard and University round-about and was happy with the reduction in crashes. He felt the reduction was due to no one knowing what to do at the round-about and believed it was a genius design.

Mayor Kuretski agreed with Councilor May and noted that drivers know they need to slow down.

Councilor Sundstrom said when the round-about was put in, drivers opted for other routes because they thought it was confusing. She asked Staff if traffic increased as residents have become more familiar with it.

Mr. Lan said no.

PRESENTATION

7. Annual Traffic Presentation.

Mr. Hernandez went on to discuss various projects within the Town, which included A1A and Jupiter Beach Road intersection improvements, and a traffic signal at Toney Penna Drive and Central Boulevard.

Mayor Kuretski asked Mr. Hernandez if he believed *Palm Beach County (PBC)* would agree on the interlocal agreement. SP 2/6/24

Mr. Hernandez said the interlocal agreement brought forth a couple of items, one being the traffic signal only and the jurisdictional traffic control. He noted both were related, the Town had jurisdictional traffic control agreements with PBC for over 40 years which included right-of-way transfers. He stated adding jurisdictional traffic control to the interlocal agreement would weigh down the process a bit.

Mayor Kuretski said he knew it had and wanted to emphasize it to the public. He asked that Staff make Council aware if the interlocal agreement would not go through.

Mr. Hernandez discussed Jupiter Park Drive at Central Boulevard intersection improvements.

Councilor Fore asked if the project anticipated the Island Way extension.

Mr. Hernandez said this project, while the immediate area of the Island Way extension did not extend all the way to the far end of where the Island Way extension would connect.

Councilor Fore asked if there had been any consideration of increased traffic flow.

Mr. Lan stated he utilized the intersection count to figure out what length the turning lanes needed to be. He noted the analysis was used to achieve the intersection turning movement count.

Mr. Hernandez reviewed Toney Penna Drive and Bush Road intersection improvements, and pedestrian crossings.

Mayor Kuretski asked how much each pedestrian crossing was per location.

Mr. Hernandez said it was roughly \$30,000 per location.

Mayor Kuretski stated it was more than he had originally understood and asked if fair value estimates had increased significantly.

Mr. Hernandez explained that when you look at all the elements, it does factor and add up.

Mayor Kuretski noted pedestrian safety was important and believed all crossings should be done.

Councilor Fore agreed with the Mayor's comments.

Mayor Kuretski said if Staff needed to increase the budget, to let Council know.

PRESENTATION

7. Annual Traffic Presentation.

Councilor May asked if it would be appropriate to make a motion for a budget amendment or would it be part of the mid-year amendments.

Mayor Kuretski stated Staff would need to come back to Council to provide direction.

Councilor May noted it would be approximately \$360,000 for all the pedestrian crossings.

Councilor Fore said he would like to get residents' feedback on the intersections.

Mayor Kuretski stated Staff would return for a budget adjustment for the cost of the intersections.

Mr. Hernandez discussed PBC projects were currently on a five-year road program.

Mayor Kuretski appreciated the PBC engineers reaching out for the Town's comments before going to the County Commission, but understood there was a limited budget and things could change. He stated he had heard that PBC would not engage the Town for the design of Center Street which was an area of local importance.

Mr. Hernandez stated PBC said they would solicit input from the Town but was unsure if it was after the design.

Mayor Kuretski said the Town needed to make it clear with PBC that there may be extras we would want to include, and it would be best to engage those extras during the engineering process. He asked for it to be confirmed with PBC and make sure that they understood we would pay for the extras.

Councilor Sundstrom agreed with the Mayor and noted it was a historic main street. She said the Council had spoken about the neighborhood scale, importance of walkability, and the importance of safety. She explained the Town's vision for the road was extremely important to convey to PBC.

Mayor Kuretski asked Staff to include in the response back to PBC that the Town's position was to be engaged in the design review as it was very important.

Councilor May noted the additional lane between Loxahatchee Road and Alternate A1A was to match what was from Indiantown Road to Loxahatchee Road, the center turn lane which helped reduce traffic crashes and increased safety.

Councilor Fore asked if there had ever been a consideration for four lanes or was it cost prohibitive.

Mr. Hernandez went on to discuss additional PBC projects currently on the five-year road program.

Police Chief David England went over activity from January 1, 2019, to December 15, 2023, for the annual traffic changes; DUI-related crashes; and major roadways and signalized intersection crashes.

Mayor Kuretski felt the detour route for the US one bridge was the cause of higher accident rates and thought it would not have increased if there had been no detour.

PRESENTATION

7. Annual Traffic Presentation.

Chief England stated he understood the Mayor's point and noted the correlation between crashes on roadway was more consistent with comparing the volume of vehicles on the road than the year-to-year comparisons.

Mayor Kuretski hoped once the bridge opens it would relieve some of those instances.

Councilor Sundstrom said there was a striking difference when looking at Donald Ross to Indiantown Road. She asked if the calculation was due to sharing jurisdiction with Palm Beach Gardens (PBG).

Chief England stated she was correct. He noted Indiantown Road was a major thoroughfare and compared to Donald Ross Road, only crashes westbound between I95 just past Military Trail were included. He said the Town would have to work with PBG and PBC to get a more complete picture of the crashes on Donald Ross Road.

Chief England went on to discuss Central Boulevard – south segment intersection crashes; bicycle and pedestrian crashes; and pedestrian and bike safety grant enforcement.

Mayor Kuretski asked the Staff to prioritize failed street lights as it's a safety concern and added that looking ahead to see if there were certain areas pedestrian lighting needed to be added.

Chief England said over the years the Police Department had worked with the Engineering Department to utilize the crash data to determine environmental improvements in the Town's major intersections. He stated improvements included lighting, back lighting, traffic control devices, raised curbs, more road striping and additional signalization when approaching an intersection. He noted the collaboration between departments still continued.

Mayor Kuretski said he wanted to make sure funding was not an issue, and it was the Council's priority to avoid fatalities.

Councilor Sundstrom noted an unfortunate accident that had happened in the Town and how Parkside Drive had seen an increase in traffic. She said it was becoming a major thoroughfare and was not designed for traffic like Military Trail. She agreed lighting should be prioritized and believed the Council needed to look at how volumes are changing and increasing.

Councilor Fore agreed with Councilor Sundstrom's comments.

Councilor Sundstrom stated this was why items are placed on the agenda to give the public notice and to provide for residents to give their comments, versus making any budget decisions this evening.

Chief England said high density lighting was the best option when there was an increase in pedestrian, bicycle or vehicle traffic.

PRESENTATION

7. Annual Traffic Presentation.

Mr. Hernandez said in the last week the Town had received a request to look at a possible roadway which happened to be a PBC roadway. He stated there was an ongoing effort to light various roadways and install lighting along various roadways.

Councilor Sundstrom said she was interested in the criteria that led to the prioritization of those roads and the timeline.

Mayor Kuretski stated the program had been around for years, and it made sense to prioritize higher level roadways because of the nature of the traffic. He noted in the past it was determined by the grade of the road and believed it should pivot to also look to locations where there was more pedestrian activity.

Vice-Mayor Delaney asked if the town was considering the increase in the volume of people on bicycles on Indiantown Road and other major arteries in the Town where there were some fatalities and close calls.

Mayor Kuretski said some of that had been done. He added the Council was passionate about pedestrian crossing safety at the railroad tracks and stated Brightline had committed to putting in some fencing, but it had not been installed yet. He asked if it was correct that one or two of his officers had saved someone's life by pulling them off the track when they were trying to commit suicide.

Chief England stated yes.

Mayor Kuretski said he had heard that the Town may be honoring the person at some point and stated he would like to make sure everyone knew about it. He noted how he had feared it might occur and thought a fence might have been enough discouragement.

Chief England noted a police officer and one code enforcement officer were recognized. He stated the had happened several times over many years.

Mayor Kuretski stated he was stunned to hear of the various occurrences and disheartened that the Town came close to having a fatality. He thanked the police for their work.

Various Council members thanked the Chief for the Police Department's dedication.

Ms. Karen Vinson, resident of Sioux Street, stated there was a lot of bike traffic on Indiantown Road with many individuals crossing over in unsafe areas. She asked for there to be more education for both drivers and bike riders. She stated her concern about cars sitting in the middle of the intersection at various locations and believed education, signage or police vehicles in those areas could help.

Chief England noted the grants the Town had received could assist with providing educational opportunities and there are police officers who do a lot of traffic stops and education when appropriate. He noted that between January and March was the highest traffic volume.

Vice-Mayor Delaney explained there were many situations which cause a lot of anger and there had been a handful of road rage incidents.

PRESENTATION

7. Annual Traffic Presentation.

Council Fore asked if more equipment was needed.

Chief England stated yes.

Councilor May asked how many they would need.

Chief England stated there were a couple which were rather old and needed to be replaced plus a couple additional were help. He noted they would be collecting information to prepare for the budget. He explained there was a need for speed as well as variable message boards.

Councilor May said if there was a need prior to the budget, to bring it up on an upcoming agenda.

Chief England said he would put Sergeant Givens and Captain Bujnoski on it first thing.

REPORTS

TOWN ATTORNEY

- Sperry Property Mediation – Mr. Baird said he would like to speak with each Council Member individually to go over the status.

TOWN MANAGER

- New Town Hall – Mr. Kitzerow said he was thankful for Council's support. He also thanked Staff for all the hard work, he acknowledged that Town Hall remained fully open during the move to serve the public.
- Jupiter Jubilee – Mr. Kitzerow said the Jubilee will be held February 3rd at Abacoa Community Park.

TOWN COUNCIL – LIAISON REPORTS AND COMMENTS

COUNCILOR SUNDSTROM

- Minutes – Councilor Sundstrom addressed *an earlier concern around minutes and noted that the Town Clerk was on maternity leave. SP 2/6/24*
- Pedestrian safety - Councilor Sundstrom said she spoke to JPD and had received resident input concerning lighting.
- E bikes – Councilor Sundstrom asked what the different rules in residential and commercial areas were *suggested the Town consider an e-bike ordinance. PSP 2/6/24*
- Ribbon Cutting – Councilor Sundstrom said the event was wonderful and thanked Staff.

COUNCILOR DELANEY

- Ribbon Cutting and New Town Hall – Councilor Delaney said the ribbon cutting was a great event and noted Town Hall Project came in on time and under budget and thanked Staff.

TOWN COUNCIL – LIAISON REPORTS AND COMMENTS
COUNCILOR MAY

- Ribbon Cutting and Town Hall – Councilor May said the move and ribbon cutting turned out great, thanked Staff and acknowledged all the hard work.
- E-bikes – Councilor May said he would support an E-bike ordinance.

COUNCILOR FORE

- E-Bikes- Councilor Fore asked if a bike is operating in a roadway it needs to adhere to motor vehicle laws.

Chief agreed if a bike was on a road they need to adhere to motor vehicle laws and clarified they were regulated the same way as a regular bicycle.

Councilor Fore noted e-bike users do not have to take any course prior to using them and do not know the laws.

- New Town Hall – Councilor thanked everyone involved in the project and noted he was excited it came in on time and under budget.

MAYOR KURETSKI

- Code Compliance – Mayor Kuretski said Staff could come to Council if they felt the Town Code needed to be changed to help a resident's situation.

Town Manager Kitzerow said Staff meets after every Council meeting to address any issues.

- New Town Hall and Ribbon Cutting – Mayor Kuretski said he was grateful for the team effort by Staff and thanked them for all the hard work.

ADJOURNMENT - 9:51 P.M.

Stephanie Proffer, Deputy Town Clerk
for Laura Cahill, Town Clerk