FINAL MINUTES AND AGENDA
TOWN OF JUPITER
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2025

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

ROLL CALL: Mayor Jim Kuretski; Vice-Mayor Malise Sundstrom; Councilor Ron Delaney; Councilor Andy Fore; Councilor Cameron May; Town Manager Frank Kitzerow; Town Attorney Thomas J. Baird and Town Clerk Laura Cahill.

PRESENTATION

1. Jupiter Fire Rescue Department Update.

Fire Chief Darrel Donatto gave a status update on Jupiter Fire Rescue which included progress in community outreach; personnel; equipment; fire stations; and operational items.

Mr. Scott Reynolds, Director of Finance, presented the budget update including the Center for Public Safety Management (CPSM) report and the fiscal year 2024 expenses and funding. He also explained the fire station construction funding and the projected budget for the next three years.

Fire Chief Donatto continued to discuss key takeaways.

Mayor Kuretski asked what was the expected budget for Fiscal Year 2027.

Mr. Reynolds stated it was $25 million and had not gone up.

Mayor Kuretski asked if there were set rules for spending accrued impact fees.

Mr. Reynolds said there were restrictions on impact fee funds and noted there were a number of studies that would need to be completed in the following year for impact fee analysis, ambulatory fees, and any fee for plan review. He explained those studies would go before Council, and would also include non-ad valorem assessments.

Mayor Kuretski stated Staff did a phenomenal job implementing the Fire Rescue department and to have it completed by 2026.

Councilor Fore said great job leading and executing by Staff. He asked for a rough estimate of how many Staff members the department may need.

PRESENTATION

1. Jupiter Fire Rescue Department Update.

Fire Chief Donatto stated approximately 100.

Councilor Fore noted the Town had already received over 100 applications.

Fire Chief Donatto said as of last week, there were 158 people listed as interested in working for the Jupiter Fire Rescue. He noted the interest had been high and without advertising.

Councilor Fore stated the Town was in a great place to pick the best when we have more applications than we need.

Councilor Delaney agreed with both Council members and believed the Town would be ready to go before October 1, 2026. He thanked the Staff for all the good work.

Vice-Mayor Sundstrom noted Council had been going to the neighborhood meetings and how far the Town had come. She discussed that at the charter neighborhood meeting at the Community Center, Fire Chief Donatto received a standing applause. She enjoyed seeing the Fire Chief answer questions and hear how Jupiter Police were working with Jupiter Fire Rescue. She thanked the Staff for the clearest presentation regarding finances.

Councilor May thanked Staff for the update. He discussed hazmat response and noted he was trying to differentiate where the Town would receive the hazmat response service from to what the Technical Rescue Team (TRT) would do. He believed the squad truck could be used by TRT for high-end rescue and dive calls.

Fire Chief Donatto stated the plan was to build the truck to incorporate a number of TRT activities. He noted Staff was in discussions with Palm Beach Gardens to partner with them. He mentioned the Town was also looking having a TRT team plus working with Palm Beach Gardens to augment each other's TRT services.

Councilor May supported having the Town's own TRT and asked if there was a timeline for hiring firefighters from the training academy.

Fire Chief Donatto said he was working with the Town Manager to refine the plan as the budget development process was underway. He noted his personal thought that it would be a four-month program and explained it would include training and familiarizing Staff with the Community.

Councilor May offered Staff his assistance.

Ms. Linda McDermott, resident of Chadwick Drive, thanked Staff for the presentation and noted the timeline was excellent. She stated she had concerns about fiscal transparency and asked what would the fiscal year 2026 millage rate be.

PRESENTATION

1. Jupiter Fire Rescue Department Update.

Mayor Kuretski asked if the fire assessment fee would impact the lower ad valorem tax.

Mr. Reynolds stated it would.

Mayor Kuretski clarified that the Town had not made that policy decision, and it would be addressed at public meetings. He asked when were the meetings scheduled.

Mr. Reynolds said that was correct and the public meetings were scheduled for summer 2025. He explained the Town would need to notice the intent to Palm Beach County Property Appraisers by December 30 and noted it was a long study with a number of required public meetings where Council could determine what the fee would be like.

Mayor Kuretski noted he had not made a final decision if the Town should charge a fire assessment fee.

Councilor Fore asked if everyone's net tax bill would go down.

Mr. Reynolds stated the millage would be less.

Vice-Mayor Sundstrom asked if he believed residents were getting confused because they were thinking about the whole tax levy. She explained that when residents see the Jupiter Fire Tax Rate on their bills, they believed it was the Town, but it was the Jupiter Municipal Services Tax Unit (MSTU) and that goes directly to Palm Beach County (PBC). She explained that line would be eliminated on resident's tax bills.

Mr. Reynolds explained that would be discussed during the budget process. He stated the Town would need to notify PBC and pass an Ordinance that we no longer want to participate in the MSTU.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Ms. Erin Aktas, resident of Royal Palm Circle, discussed the Supervisor of Elections (SOE) and election integrity.

Ms. Linda McDermott, resident of Chadwick Drive, spoke regarding her concern for parking at the upcoming Jupiter Jubilee and increase in the millage rate.

Mayor Kuretski explained the Jupiter High School parking lot would be setup for parking.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Mr. Frank Kitzerow, Town Manager, said parking information would be displayed on the Town's website for the public.

Mayor Kuretski also noted that ad-valorem tax would not go up. He stated he also supported no fire assessment fee however, would be open to reviewing the benefits.

Ms. Lisa Vreeland, resident of Robinson Street, mentioned the recent candidate forum and suggested residents vote in the upcoming election.

Mr. Rob Roath, resident of Regatta Drive, expressed his support for Jupiter Fire Rescue Department.

MINUTES

2. January 21, 2025 Town Council Meeting Minutes.

Councilor Fore moved to approve January 21, 2025 Town Council Meeting Minutes, as amended; seconded by Councilor Delaney; motion passed.

Kuretski	Sundstrom	Delaney	Fore	May
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	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.

• Vice-Mayor Sundstrom and Councilor May pulled item 4.

Councilor Delaney moved to approve the Consent Agenda, as amended; seconded by Councilor Fore; motion passed.

Kuretski	Sundstrom	Delaney	Fore	May
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

CONSENT AGENDA

PUBLIC BUSINESS

3. **Resolution 20-25,** Accepting FEMA and State of Florida matching funds and authorizing the Town Manager to accept and execute documents relating to Hurricane Milton.

4. Approving a piggyback contract with Rep Services, Inc. (RSI) (Agreement No. 2023/2024-284) for playground materials and construction at Indian Creek Park, Jupiter Community Park, and Maplewood Park. **MOVED TO REGULAR AGENDA**

5. Adopting the 2025-2027 Strategic Plan.

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

ITEM REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA TO REGULAR AGENDA

4. Approving a piggyback contract with Rep Services, Inc. (RSI) (Agreement No. 2023/2024-284) for playground materials and construction at Indian Creek Park, Jupiter Community Park, and Maplewood Park.

Vice-Mayor Sundstrom asked to view the presentation due to the Community interest regarding park renovations.

Councilor May agreed.

Mr. Mike Hoffmann, Senior Director of Community Services, gave an overview of the item which was the approval of a piggy-back contract through Rep Services Incorporated (RSI) for Clay County and it included the materials and construction services for Indian Creek Park, Jupiter Community Park, and Maplewood Park. He explained funds from the previous year rolled over into the current year and allowed the Town to enhance and renovate the playgrounds. Mr. Hoffmann said the estimated completion of the playgrounds would be in fall 2025.

Mr. Hoffmann explained there was a dedicated webpage that outlined the roadmap to the 11 playgrounds that would be redone over 5 years.

Councilor May asked if Maplewood Parks construction could be delayed until after school was out due to it being highly utilized after school.

Mayor Kuretski said he agreed due to the park being right next to an elementary school and made sense for it to be scheduled outside the school year.

Mr. Kitzerow said the Town would look into it and hopefully be able to accomplish that.

Mr. Hoffmann presented the Jupiter Playground Renovations Roadmap webpage and went over the timeline and the interactive map feature which showed a preview of the projected playground renderings and features.

Mayor Kuretski asked Mr. Hoffmann to speak about Indian Creek being chosen as the flagship playground location.

Mr. Hoffmann explained it was a frequently used playground in a central location.

Mayor Kuretski added that extra amenities were chosen for that playground due to knowing more people traveled to that park.

Mayor Kuretski asked about the Imagination Station's *engraved fence planks program*, and if that could be incorporated. LC 2/18/25

Mr. Hoffmann said he would look into it.

ITEM REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA TO REGULAR AGENDA

4. Approving a piggyback contract with Rep Services, Inc. (RSI) (Agreement No. 2023/2024-284) for playground materials and construction at Indian Creek Park, Jupiter Community Park, and Maplewood Park.

Councilor May agreed that it would be nice to have an ode to the original imagination station.

Mr. Hoffman continued reviewing Playground Renovation Roadmap.

Councilor Fore asked if an emergency call boxes could be added.

Vice-Mayor Sundstrom said the Jupiter Fire Rescue Department was actively looking researching that.

Mr. Kitzerow said they would look into it.

Vice-Mayor Sundstrom said the previous renderings were not as detailed and heard from residents the needed to prioritize both equipment and shade. She explained the budget was then increased to address those concerns and would be major improvements to the current Town parks. Vice-Mayor Sundstrom thanked Staff for the improvements.

Councilor Delaney agreed and thanked Staff.

Mayor Kuretski thanks Vice-Mayor Sundstrom and Councilor *May* for pulling the item and going forward to automatically do a presentation. LC 2/18/25

Vice-Mayor Sundstrom moved to approve a piggyback contract with Rep Services, Inc. (RSI) (Agreement No. 2023/2024-284) for playground materials and construction at Indian Creek Park, Jupiter Community Park, and Maplewood Park; seconded by Councilor May; motion passed.

Kuretski	Sundstrom	Delaney	Fore	May
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

REPORTS

TOWN ATTORNEY – NONE

TOWN MANAGER

- Playground Team – Mr. Kitzerow thanked Mr. Mike Hoffmann, Ms. Kristen George, and their team for all the hard work regarding the playgrounds.
- Jupiter Fire Department - Mr. Kitzerow thanked the leadership team for their efforts regarding the Fire department.

REPORTS
TOWN MANAGER

- AEDs at the Jupiter Lighthouse - Mr. Kitzerow stated Staff met with management at the lighthouse and were just waiting for approval from them to proceed with installing the AED.

- Toney Penna Traffic Signal - Mr. Kitzerow mentioned there was a letter on the dais that was sent to the County Administrator regarding the traffic signal at Toney Penna and Central Boulevard.

- Jupiter Jubilee - Mr. Kitzerow stated the Jupiter Jubilee was on Saturday, February 8, 11am-4pm at the Municipal complex. He thanked Ms. George, her Team, and Captain Scott Kimbark for their efforts regarding the event.

- Mr. King Wekenmann 50 years of service – Mr. Kitzerow recognized Mr. Wekenmann for his 50 years of service to the Town.

- Sawfish Bay Park Marine Restoration Phase Two - Mr. Kitzerow stated Planning and Zoning Staff completed the second phase of the Sawfish Bay Park Marine Restoration focusing on extending the natural rock and planting mangroves. He added the project was in support of the Strategic Initiative to "Protect Local Seagrass and the Loxahatchee River".

- Legacy of Light: 100 Years of Jupiter Art Exhibition - Mr. Kitzerow encouraged everyone to visit the Art Committee's new exhibit which was on display through March 9th at the Jupiter Community Center.

TOWN COUNCIL – LIAISON REPORTS AND COMMENTS
VICE-MAYOR SUNDSTROM

- Jupiter Jubilee – Vice-Mayor Sundstrom thanked Ms. George and her Team for all their hard work regarding all the events Recreation puts on, including the Jubilee.

COUNCILOR DELANEY

- Jupiter Cove Condominium – Councilor Delaney stated the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) had made an agreement to place a natural landscape buffer against the road. He stated he wanted make sure there was follow up on the project to make sure it happened.

COUNCILOR FORE

- Jupiter Jubilee – Councilor Fore also thanked Ms. George and her Team for all their hard work.

- Riverside Drive sign – Councilor Fore thanked Staff for removing the "no right turn" sign on Riverside Drive. He mentioned his safety concerns regarding cars stopping on the train tracks.

  Mr. Kitzerow added police officers were at the location working traffic and educate drivers.

REPORTS
TOWN MANAGER

- Ms. Kristin George 25 Years of Service - Mr. Kitzerow recognized Ms. George's 25 years of service with the Town.

TOWN COUNCIL – LIAISON REPORTS AND COMMENTS
COUNCILOR FORE

- Transparency – Councilor Fore spoke about the Town's complete transparency.

MAYOR KURETSKI

- Dispatch – Mayor Kuretski asked the Town Manager to speak regarding the Town's intentions regarding dispatch and the municipal dispatch.

  Mr. Kitzerow stated the Town was working on an agreement with Palm Beach County Fire dispatch to work through them. The Town would then look at response times and evaluate future options. He also mentioned integrating with Police.

ADJOURNMENT – 9:01 P.M.

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Laura Cahill, Town Clerk