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Town of Ponce Inlet
Town Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
January 23, 2020

6 **1. CALL TO ORDER:** Pursuant to proper notice, Mayor Smith called the meeting to order
7 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at 4300 South Atlantic Avenue, Ponce Inlet, Florida.

9 **2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Mayor Smith led the Pledge of Allegiance.

11 **3. ROLL CALL:**

12 **Town Council:**

13 Mayor Smith, Seat #1

14 Councilmember Milano, Seat #2

15 Vice-Mayor Hoss, Seat #3

16 Councilmember Perrone, Seat #4

17 Councilmember Paritsky, Seat #5

19 **Staff Members Present:**

20 Ms. Cherbano, Human Resource Director/Deputy Clerk

21 Mr. Disher, Assistant Director of Planning & Development

22 Ms. Hunt, Administrative Assistant

23 Mr. Joulani, Director, Planning & Development

24 Mr. Scales, Fire Chief

25 Mr. Shepard, Town Attorney

26 Mr. Walker, Interim Police Chief

27 Ms. Witt, Town Manager

28 Ms. Zengotita, Cultural Services Manager

30 **4. ADDITIONS, CORRECTIONS OR DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA:** There were no
31 changes; Mayor Smith opened public comments – hearing none – he closed public comments.

33 Councilmember Paritsky moved to adopt the agenda as presented; seconded by Vice-Mayor Hoss.
34 The motion PASSED 5-0, consensus.

36 **5. PROCLAMATIONS, PRESENTATIONS, AND AWARDS:**

38 **A.** Presentation of the Mayor’s State of the Town Address. Mayor Smith read the State
39 of the Town Address.

41 **B.** Award Recognition for Town Employee of the Year. Ms. Witt read a brief bio of
42 Erik Repyneck, noting his years of service, commitment and dedication to the
43 Town, his work on the Beach Clean-up project and the rebuilding of the Ponce
44 Preserve Boardwalk. Mr. Repyneck was recognized for his outstanding

45 performance and leadership skills, particularly during Hurricane Dorian. Mayor
46 Smith congratulated him for being selected as the 2020 Employee of the Year award
47 presented him with the award.
48

49 **6. CONSENT AGENDA:** Mayor Smith asked if there was any item Council would like to
50 remove from the consent agenda or to discuss – hearing none – he closed Council
51 comments. Mayor Smith asked for public comments – hearing none – he closed public
52 comments.
53

- 54 **A.** Approval of the Town Council regular meeting minutes – December 12, 2019.
55
- 56 **B.** Revocation of prior approval to move the date of the August 2020 regular meeting
57 to August 13th, placing this meeting back in line with its normal schedule for August
58 20, 2020 due to the Florida League of Cities Conference occurring on a different
59 week this year.
60
- 61 **C.** Authorization to enter into a revised contract for animal shelter services with the
62 Halifax Humane Society.
63
- 64 **D.** Authorization for the Town to enter into an interlocal fleet service agreement with
65 the City of New Smyrna Beach.
66
- 67 **E.** Request for co-sponsorship of Turtle Trek 5K scheduled for March 7, 2020; their
68 co-sponsorship request is for the use of the Town’s means of advertising to include
69 publication on the Town’s website, social media, and water bills; the placement of
70 signs on the Town Hall property; waiver of the special event permit fee (\$150); and
71 waiver of the Davies Lighthouse Park pavilion rental fee (\$35); and closure of the
72 boat ramp. Event organizers will be responsible for the cost of off-duty Public
73 Works and Police services as stated above and must provide proof of insurance.
74

75 Councilmember Paritsky moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented, seconded by Vice-
76 Mayor Hoss. The motion PASSED 5-0, consensus.
77

78 **7. OLD/NEW BUSINESS ITEMS PREFERRED AT THE BEGINNING OF THE**
79 **MEETING:**
80

81 **A. Renaming Happy Tails Dog Park and ratifying new Hours of Operation.** Ms.
82 Zengotita reviewed the Cultural Services Board’s recommendations regarding the park’s name and
83 proposed change to the hours of dawn to dusk. She noted the Police Department’s concerns with
84 visitor’s safety since there is no lighting in the park and its recommendation to close the park at
85 dusk. She noted several residents provided feedback regarding the hours and their requests to have
86 lighting installed in the park. She stated there is an existing power pole located adjacent to the park
87 and stated staff could discuss with Florida Power & Light (FP&L) the possibility of installing a
88 light on that pole, if that is Council’s desire. Councilmember Perrone asked if there was an
89 indication of the timeframe for FPL to install a light. Ms. Witt stated there is currently power to
90 the pole, so it should be a relatively minor task and explained the location of where on the pole the

91 light could be installed and that it would be a regular streetlight, but they will ask if a timer could
92 be installed. There was a brief discussion regarding shielding the light, which Ms. Witt stated they
93 could request as well. Councilmember Milano asked if there are plans to upgrade this park. Ms.
94 Zengotita stated staff is working on a presentation for the Cultural Services Board in the coming
95 months. Mr. Walker stated the officers observe “dawn to dusk” as 30 minutes before sunrise and
96 30 minutes after sunset, then secure the parks. Mayor Smith opened public comments - hearing
97 none, he closed public comment.

98
99 Councilmember Paritsky moved to approve re-naming the Happy Tails Dog Park to “Ponce’s
100 Happy Tails Dog Park”, to approve new park operating hours of dawn to dusk, pending the future
101 addition of lighting; seconded by Vice-Mayor Hoss. The motion PASSED 5-0, consensus.

102

103 **8. PUBLIC HEARINGS / QUASI-JUDICIAL:**

104

105 **A. Final Site Development Plan for “Condominiums on the Atlantic”, 4591 South**
106 **Atlantic Avenue.** Mr. Disher stated that the landscape plan was reviewed by the Cultural Services
107 Board and the Planning Board and both recommended approval. Mr. Disher stated the property is
108 located on the east side of South Atlantic Avenue, south and east of Winterhaven Park. He noted
109 that there are gopher tortoise burrows on the property which will be protected during construction.
110 Mr. Disher stated the development consists of four townhomes, with one shared driveway per two
111 units (for a total of two driveways), and each unit will have its own swimming pool and boardwalk.
112 He reviewed the stormwater drainage and utility plans and noted that the developer will be required
113 to connect to the City of Port Orange’s Sanitary Sewer system via a 3-inch force-main and grinder
114 pump, for which the developer will be required to enter into a maintenance agreement with the
115 City of Port Orange. Mr. Disher reviewed the landscape plan and noted that it meets the
116 requirements of the LUDC. He then reviewed the architectural renderings and stated that the
117 building will not exceed 35 feet in height. He stated the hearings were properly noticed pursuant
118 to code, including posting the property, certified mail to abutting property owners, and legal ad in
119 the *News-Journal*. He noted that the proposed development meets the criteria under section
120 6.6.6.B.5.b of the LUDC and that staff recommends approval. Councilmember Perrone asked if
121 Winterhaven is a public road or private road. Mr. Disher stated it is a public road. Mr. Perrone then
122 asked if the power lines would be buried. Mr. Disher stated the Town can suggest it but the code
123 does not require it. There was a brief discussion regarding the oceanfront setback line, which Mr.
124 Disher confirmed is part of the development review process. Mayor Smith asked if the two
125 proposed private pump systems are still proposed (as shown on the Town’s 2017 Sanitary Sewer
126 Master Plan Update) or will they be connected to the line. Mr. Disher stated at this point, they are
127 still proposed. Mayor Smith stated it is a private line and asked if the developer would need
128 permission to connect to it. Mr. Disher stated yes. Mayor Smith opened public comments - hearing
129 none, he closed public comment.

130
131 Councilmember Paritsky moved the following: that the Council finds the proposed development
132 meets the criteria of LUDC section 6.6.6.B.5.b and that based upon the findings of staff, to approve
133 the final site development plan for “Condominiums on the Atlantic” as presented; seconded by
134 Vice-Mayor Hoss. The motion PASSED 5-0 consensus.

135

136 **9. PUBLIC HEARINGS / NON-QUASI-JUDICIAL MATTERS:**

137

138 **A. Second reading and adoption of Ordinance 2020-03, de-annexation of Dixie**
139 **Freeway, New Smyrna Beach.** Attorney Shepard read the ordinance by title only. AN
140 ORDINANCE DE-ANNEXING FROM THE TOWN OF PONCE INLET, FLORIDA, A
141 PORTION OF PROPERTY LOCATED EAST OF U.S. HIGHWAY #1 AND NORTH OF THE
142 SOUTHERLY BOUNDARY OF THE TOWN LIMITS; PROVIDING FOR REDEFINING
143 BOUNDARIES OF THE TOWN; PROVIDING FOR PUBLIC HEARING; PROVIDING FOR
144 REQUIRED FILINGS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS;
145 AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. Mr. Disher confirmed that there were no changes
146 since first reading. Attorney Storch, representing the applicant, thanked staff and the Council for
147 their assistance with this matter. He noted that they intend to apply to City of New Smyrna Beach
148 to annex the property into the city’s municipal boundaries. Mayor Smith opened public comment
149 – hearing none, he closed public comment.

150
151 Councilmember Paritsky moved to find that the applicant has satisfied the statutory criteria of
152 “contraction” of the municipal boundary of Ponce Inlet that permits de-annexation under FS
153 Chapter 171.052(1) based on the findings of staff’s report dated December 4, 2019; and to approve
154 and adopt upon second reading Ordinance 2020-03; seconded by Vice-Mayor Hoss. The motion
155 PASSED 5-0, with the following vote: Councilmember Paritsky – yes; Vice-Mayor Hoss – yes;
156 Councilmember Perrone - yes; Councilmember Milano - yes; Mayor Smith – yes.

157
158 **B. Second reading and adoption of Ordinance 2020-04, amending regulations**
159 **related to parking and screening of recreational vehicles, watercraft, and trailers.** Attorney
160 Shepard read the ordinance by title only. AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF PONCE INLET,
161 FLORIDA; AMENDING ARTICLE 4, SECTION 4.7.11, AND ARTICLE 9, SECTION 9.4 OF
162 THE LAND USE AND DEVELOPMENT CODE CONCERNING PARKING
163 REQUIREMENTS FOR RECREATIONAL VEHICLES, WATERCRAFT, AND TRAILERS
164 ON RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR
165 CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE. Mayor
166 Smith opened public comment – hearing none, he closed public comment.

167
168 Councilmember Paritsky moved to approve and adopt Ordinance 2020-04 as presented; seconded
169 by Vice-Mayor Hoss. The motion PASSED 5-0, with the following vote: Councilmember Paritsky
170 – yes; Vice-Mayor Hoss – yes; Councilmember Perrone - yes; Councilmember Milano - yes;
171 Mayor Smith – yes.

172
173 **C. Resolution 2020-01, vacating a 10-foot public utility easement on the south side**
174 **of Lot 5, Elbers Minor Subdivision, 149 Bounty Lane.** Attorney Shepard read the ordinance by
175 title only. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF PONCE INLET,
176 VOLUSIA COUNTY, FLORIDA, VACATING A 10-FOOT PUBLIC UTILITY EASEMENT
177 ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 149 BOUNTY LANE; AUTHORIZING EXECUTION AND
178 RECORDATION OF EFFECTING DOCUMENTS; PROVIDING LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS;
179 PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING
180 FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. Mr. Disher explained that the utility easement was created when
181 the Elbers Minor Subdivision was platted, being placed across the rear of all lots. The property in
182 question consists of Lot 5 and a narrow, triangular, portion of Lot 4 at the rear. The easement in
183 question runs diagonally through the property along the rear line of Lot 5. The current owner

184 wishes to construct a single-family home and an inground swimming pool, which would encroach
185 into the easement. Mr. Disher reported that the Planning Board reviewed the application at its
186 December 17, 2019 meeting and recommended approval; and there have been no objections from
187 adjoining property owners or public utility agencies. He stated that the applicant has met the
188 criteria outlined in the Code of Ordinances, Chapter 20, Article IV, and that staff recommends
189 approval with the following condition: the property owner(s) shall apply for and complete a
190 property line adjustment through the Town’s minor replat process to combine Lot 5 and the 1,285
191 square-foot portion of Lot 4 into one property for development purposes, prior to the issuance of
192 any construction permits. Mayor Smith opened public comment – hearing none, he closed public
193 comment.

194
195 Councilmember Paritsky moved to approve Resolution 2020-01 vacating a 10-foot public utility
196 easement on the south side of Lot 5, Elbers Minor Subdivision, with the following condition: the
197 property owner(s) shall apply for and complete a property line adjustment through the Town’s
198 minor replat process to combine Lot 5 and the 1,285 square-foot portion of Lot 4 into one property
199 for development purposes, prior to the issuance of any construction permits; seconded by Vice-
200 Mayor Hoss. The motion PASSED 5-0, with the following vote: Councilmember Paritsky – yes;
201 Vice-Mayor Hoss – yes; Mayor Smith – yes; Councilmember Milano – yes; Councilmember
202 Perrone – yes.

203

204 **10. CITIZENS’ PARTICIPATION:** None.

205

206 **11. ORDINANCES (FIRST READING) AND RESOLUTIONS:**

207

208 **A. First reading of Ordinance 2020-05, establishing procedures for the**
209 **disposition of town-owned real property.** Attorney Shepard read the ordinance by title only. AN
210 ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF PONCE INLET, VOLUSIA COUNTY, FLORIDA
211 AMENDING CHAPTER 2, SECTION 2-383 OF THE TOWN CODE OF ORDINANCES TO
212 PROVIDE A PROCEDURE FOR THE DISPOSITION OF TOWN-OWNED REAL
213 PROPERTY; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY;
214 PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. Mayor Smith noted that this may be controversial,
215 but he has concerns with the notification requirements that every resident of the Town be notified.
216 He stated that this body is elected to serve the Town and suggested notification to proximity
217 residents, not the entire Town. Councilmember Paritsky questioned the rationale for notifying only
218 those in proximity and not the entire town, as the entire town would be impacted by the decision.
219 Councilmember Milano referred to his experience in sending mailouts for which approximately
220 75% of the mailings were returned as “non-deliverable”, creating an unnecessary expense; he
221 suggested notification to management companies instead of individual owners at condominiums,
222 since the notifications will be posted on the website and the water bills. He requested the list of
223 properties owned by the Town be referenced within this document, with a notation for those which
224 should never be considered for sale or trade, in an effort to preserve history. Councilmember
225 Perrone noted that even if included, any future Council could change it with a super-majority of
226 votes. There was discussion of putting a deed restriction on the properties, to which Attorney
227 Shepard stated that could be changed by a future Council as well and mentioned there were
228 situations where properties were damaged beyond repair and certain types of legislation may result
229 in unintended consequences in those situations. After some additional discussion, Councilmember
230 Paritsky confirmed that the suggestion on the floor is to omit paragraph 3, of Section 2-383(a).

230

231 Mayor Smith also referred to paragraph c of Section 2-383 and requested that Elbers' Park be
232 added to this section to be excluded from this policy, as the condition to ownership of this lot, it
233 reverts to Elbers subdivision when no longer in use by the Town; and any "remnant" piece of an
234 existing parcel. Attorney Shepard noted that a definition of "remnant piece" should be defined in
235 the ordinance as well if they were to use that term. There was more discussion regarding remnant;
236 after which Mayor Smith decided to withdraw his request for the inclusion of "remnant piece of
237 existing parcel" but the exclusion of Elbers' Park was to remain. Mayor Smith asked for public
238 comments – hearing none, he closed public comments.

239

240 Councilmember Paritsky moved to approve the first reading of Ordinance 2020-05 as modified on
241 the record as to notice (removal of paragraph 3 of Section 2-383(a) and the addition of "Elbers
242 Park" to paragraph (c) of Section 2-383) and to include the definition of real property; seconded
243 by Councilmember Perrone. The motion PASSED 3-2, with the following vote: Councilmember
244 Paritsky – yes; Councilmember Perrone – yes; Vice-Mayor Hoss - no; Councilmember Milano -
245 no; Mayor Smith – yes.

246

247 **B. Resolution 2020-02, supporting the Daytona Tortugas and the continuation of**
248 **minor league baseball in Daytona Beach.** Attorney Shepard read the resolution by title only. A
249 RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF PONCE INLET, FLORIDA, SUPPORTING THE
250 DAYTONA TORTUGAS AND THE CONTINUATION OF MINOR LEAGUE BASEBALL IN
251 DAYTONA BEACH; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. Ms. Witt reported that major
252 league baseball is considering reducing affiliation with this minor league team. She referred to the
253 proposed resolution which has been adopted by several other local cities and the county and cites
254 the benefits of having this team in the area; as it contributes to the economy, has historic ties to the
255 area, and supports several local charities and community events. Mayor Smith asked for public
256 comments – hearing none, he closed public comments.

257

258 Councilmember Paritsky moved to approve Resolution 2020-02 as presented; seconded by Vice-
259 Mayor Hoss. The motion PASSED 5-0, with the following vote: Councilmember Paritsky – yes;
260 Vice-Mayor Hoss – yes; Mayor Smith – yes; Councilmember Perrone - yes; Councilmember
261 Milano – yes.

262

263 **12. OLD BUSINESS:**

264

265 **A. Revised proposal for trail location in Davies Lighthouse Park.** Ms. Zengotita
266 stated the purpose of bringing the revised proposal was to re-evaluate the location as per Council's
267 request at its December meeting. She stated the Cultural Services Board reviewed the two
268 additional proposed re-designs and recommended approval of Alternate A (which cuts through the
269 park and results in the loss of one tree); Alternate B remains at the perimeter of the park and results
270 in the loss of two trees. Mayor Smith noted his support of Alternate A, Councilmembers Milano
271 and Perrone concurred. Councilmember Paritsky stated her support of Alternate B, noting that the
272 one oak tree appears to be hollow and the cedar tree that would be lost is also not in good shape.
273 She noted that the future use of the park should be considered when determining the location of
274 the trail. Mayor Smith asked for public comments – hearing none, he closed public comments.

275

276 Councilmember Paritsky moved to approve Option A as the sidewalk location; seconded by Vice-
277 Mayor Hoss. The motion PASSED 4-1, with Councilmember Paritsky dissenting.

278

279 **13. NEW BUSINESS:**

280

281 **A. Update & one-year extension to current goals list.** Ms. Witt stated that two years
282 ago, Council put together a sizeable goals list which for the first time was broken out by
283 departments, and she provided an updated list depicting which items have been accomplished and
284 which items are pending. In addition, she noted that some items have been added, including a
285 Watershed Master Plan, which would assist with the Town's rating with the National Flood
286 Insurance Program. She requested they consider also adding "exterior lighting regulations", for
287 which staff has prepared a draft ordinance as they recognized this as a deficiency in the code.
288 Councilmember Perrone asked if the Town could prepare welcome packets, informing new
289 residents of board activities, clubs, and other services. Ms. Zengotita offered to do this. Mayor
290 Smith asked for public comments - hearing none, he closed public comments.

291

292 Councilmember Paritsky moved to approve the updated Council Goals list with a one-year
293 extension through Fiscal Year 2020/2021, to include the addition of "exterior lighting
294 regulations" in the Planning Department and creation of a "welcome packet" in the Cultural
295 Services Department; seconded by Vice-Mayor Hoss. The motion PASSED 5-0, consensus.

296

297 **B. Discussion of Town Manager's compensation.** Councilmember Perrone
298 explained that he brought this item forward as Ms. Witt's annual evaluation is due and he was
299 curious about her salary and how it compared to other jurisdictions. He noted that it appears that
300 her salary is \$23,000 or more below the average of comparable manager salaries in this area.
301 Councilmember Perrone referenced her exemplary evaluations and stated that if the town manager
302 should leave tomorrow, what would it cost the Town to replace her based on all the departments
303 and her responsibilities. Mayor Smith stated there are 3,000 permanent residents but we are a
304 community of 9,000 based on the number of bedrooms. He also noted that when she became the
305 town manager that she absorbed the position of assistant town manager into her own position,
306 reducing costs there. Councilmember Perrone suggested Ms. Witt be compensated along with her
307 peers. Councilmember Milano agreed but expressed a preference that this be done as part of a
308 formal study; he then inquired if these base salaries included all bonuses, benefits, etc. Ms. Witt
309 advised that a manager's package is typically boiler plate from one municipality to the next and
310 includes a car allowance, cell phone allowance, and the same retirement plan membership as is
311 offered to the employees. Councilmember Perrone stated that he was not opposed to a formal study
312 for the remainder of the employees, but he felt they should address the manager at this time on her
313 anniversary, in light of the salaries that are apparent in recently hired managers of other cities. In
314 reviewing the information provided by Councilmember Perrone, Mayor Smith suggested Ms.
315 Witt's salary be \$150,000 and explained how he came up with that figure: based upon her current
316 salary, if she were to be given a \$25,000 raise, her salary would be \$148,000; if she were given a
317 3% raise and then a \$25,000 raise, her salary would be \$151,000. Councilmember Paritsky and
318 Councilmember Perrone agreed. Councilmember Milano asked if the 3% annual raise was built
319 in. Ms. Witt stated that whatever adjustment they approved, she would anticipate it would be in
320 lieu of the 3% merit this year, but that should be part of the motion. It was also noted that Ms.

321 Cherbano had found in her research that most city managers are not in a municipality’s salary plan.
322 Mayor Smith asked for public comments - hearing none, he closed public comments.

323
324 Councilmember Perrone moved to approve an increase to the Town Manager’s salary to \$150,000
325 per annum, in lieu of the 3% merit increase for FY 19/20, and removed the position from the
326 Town’s Salary Plan; seconded by Councilmember Paritsky. The motion PASSED 5-0, consensus.

327
328 Ms. Witt thanked the Councilmembers for their generosity.

329
330 **C. Meeting and Event dates in April 2020** - Ms. Witt stated that the meeting date is
331 currently set for April 16th and noted other activities occurring during that month. She provided
332 some dates for consideration. Councilmember Perrone noted that April 9th is Holy Thursday and
333 does not wish to meet on that day; Councilmember Milano concurred. Councilmember Paritsky
334 asked why we are moving the regular meeting date. Vice-Mayor Hoss stated she will be out of
335 Town on the 16th and unavailable. Councilmember Paritsky expressed concerns about moving a
336 meeting for a personal schedule preference, suggesting that instead Councilmembers should
337 request an “excused absence”. Mayor Smith asked for public comments - hearing none, he closed
338 public comments.

339
340 Council took no action to move the April regular meeting from its scheduled date of April 16th,
341 2020.

342
343 Council discussed whether it was appropriate to move a Council meeting date going forward and
344 that for next year a review of the meetings dates should occur and the calendar for the year be
345 established without further change.

346
347 **14. FROM THE TOWN COUNCIL:**

348
349 **A. Councilmember Paritsky, Seat #5** – Reported that at the Roundtable, a survey
350 was provided to each municipality regarding short-term rentals; she stated she intends to make a
351 recommendation to create a Roundtable Sub-Committee which addresses Coastal Flooding, Sea
352 Level Rise, and will volunteer to sit on that Committee; she stated the ½ cent sales tax issue was
353 raised and an idea was mentioned about it being bundled with ECHO and Volusia Forever Funds
354 on the upcoming ballot; she noted the rental regulations preemption concerns of bills being heard
355 by the state legislature and referred to the Town’s drafted resolution from 2018 – which she has
356 offered to other entities; there was a discussion on ADA bus stop improvements, to which she
357 noted that the Town is ahead of the curve, with nine bus stops left. She stated that she has been
358 asked to make the trip to Tallahassee, with the Florida League of Cities, and asked if Council was
359 amenable to her representing the Town, discussing rental ordinances and Bert J. Harris. She
360 thanked Ms. Zengotita for helping her with the short-term rental brochure for this. She stated the
361 dates are February 4th, 5th, and 6th. Council concurred. Councilmember Milano asked if
362 Councilmember Paritsky could provide who voted and how they voted; She stated the Town is a
363 member of the American Flood Coalition and she is has been invited by them to be an advisory
364 board member. She stated that the East Central FL Regional Planning Council would like to meet
365 with the Town Council at its February meeting. The Coalition has suggested the following dates
366 they will be available: March 9th, 10th, or 11th and Council was asked to review their calendars for

367 availability. She noted that they will be speaking at the Volusia Roundtable on March 9th. She
368 asked for Council consensus for her to accept the membership. Councilmember Perrone asked if
369 there were any costs involved. Councilmember Paritsky stated no. He then referenced the issues
370 in Miami, where as sea level rises, water percolates and asked if the Town can be affected by that.
371 Councilmember Paritsky stated that is why we need a vulnerability study, and we can invite local
372 municipalities. Council authorized Ms. Paritsky to serve on the advisory board of the Coalition.
373

374 **B. Councilmember Perrone, Seat #4** – Wished everyone a Happy and healthy New
375 Year; reported the TPO discussion included the I-95 corridor improvements and process re-paving
376 of I-95 north of LPGA interchange; he stated the Federal Government is considering future funding
377 based on local cost-sharing by the municipality/county, looking for revenue sources for road
378 improvements, which the sales tax proposal would fund and the County be held accountable. He
379 wanted to bring awareness to the clear-cutting of the Mangroves at the Wilbur Boat House. He
380 stated that it is against the law and asked residents to contact the Police Department or town hall
381 if anyone sees that type of activity in the future.
382

383 **C. Vice-Mayor Hoss, Seat #3** – Referred to the recent newspaper articles and the
384 actions by those in Tallahassee with regards to the short-term rental regulations. She stated that it
385 the people in Tallahassee seem to disregard the will of the voters, including limiting funds and
386 attacking home rule powers.
387

388 **D. Councilmember Milano, Seat #2** – Stated that Florida has some of the best Charter
389 Schools and noted a former student who later became the Principal at Parkland High School; he
390 stated that the State is requiring tighter security at schools but is not offering any funding to help
391 pay for that security. He stressed the importance of putting the right people in the right place -
392 noting the attack on home rule regarding rental regulations. He reported the First Step Shelter has
393 33 residents, with a total intake of 43; 4 left due to non-compliance with drug/alcohol policy; 1 left
394 due to non-compliance with mental health evaluation requirement; 1 left due to physical
395 incapacity; two are in the hospital; and two that did not return. He noted that two residents
396 completed the program and will be receiving housing assistance and seven residents have jobs and
397 have maintained employment. He stated his belief that this program will work if funded properly.
398 He noted that there were 17 licensed technical/vocational programs on his campus; this past year
399 he attended a reunion and noted that there were only four programs left. He expressed displeasure
400 that these technical programs have gone away, and that our future is our children. He wished
401 everyone a happy new year. Councilmember Perrone asked if anyone is reaching out to the
402 Governor expressing concerns with home rule. Councilmember Paritsky stated that the League has
403 not written to the Governor, but all resolutions are sent to the Governor's office.
404

405 **E. Mayor Smith, Seat #1** – Stated he had no report.
406

407 **15. FROM THE TOWN MANAGER** – Ms. Witt announced that the Town of Ponce Inlet
408 took 1st place in the annual Feed the Need Food Drive, with 52 pounds per employee; she
409 referenced Council's calendar, stated the Historic North Turn Legends Beach Parade is Feb. 8th at
410 12:30 p.m. and the Mayor will be waving the flag; and reminded Council of the Elected Officials
411 training being held on Monday, Feb. 24th in Edgewater.
412

413 **16. FROM THE TOWN ATTORNEY** – Attorney Shepard stated he had no report.

414 **ADJOURNMENT** - Mayor Smith adjourned the meeting at 8:48 p.m.

415

416 Respectfully submitted by:

417

418

419

420 _____
Jeaneen Witt, CMC, Town Manager/Town Clerk

421 Peg Hunt, Board Secretary