



TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH

One Golden Beach Drive
Golden Beach, FL 33160

Official Minutes for the June 6, 2023
Special Town Council Meeting called for 6:00 P.M.

Zoom Room Meeting ID: 834 7927 5140 Password: 961350

For Dial In Only: Call 929.205.6099 Meeting ID: 834 7927 5140

THE PUBLIC MAY PARTICIPATE AT GOOD AND WELFARE; PLEASE HOLD ALL QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS UNTIL THEN! THE PUBLIC IS ENCOURAGED TO SUBMIT ALL COMMENTS VIA EMAIL TO LPEREZ@GOLDENBEACH.US BY 2:00 P.M. TUESDAY, JUNE 6TH, 2023.

A. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Mayor Singer called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

Councilmember's Present: Mayor Glenn Singer, Vice Mayor Kenneth Bernstein, Councilmember Jaime Mendal, Councilmember Judy Lusskin, Councilmember Einstein (Arrived during Item E)

Staff Present: Town Manager Alexander Diaz, Town Attorney Steve Helfman (via zoom), Assistant Town Manager Linda Epperson, Town Clerk Lissette Perez, Police Capt. Yovany Diaz, Finance Director Maria D. Camacho (via zoom), CIP Director Lissett Rovira, Resident Services Director Michael Glidden, Office Assistant Kaitlyn Dziedzic

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Captain Diaz led the Pledge of Allegiance

D. PRESENTATIONS / TOWN PROCLAMATIONS

CAPTAIN DIAZ REMARKS

INTRODUCTION TO NEW/PROMOTED STAFF MEMBERS

- INGRID GOODEN, AUDITOR – PROMOTED FROM CONTRACT EMPLOYEE TO FULL-TIME
- PATRICIA BOCIO, EXEC. ASST. TO THE POLICE CHIEF
- ELENA CHEUNG, HR GENERALIST & EXEC. ASST. TO THE TOWN CLERK

E. MOTION TO SET THE AGENDA

ADDITIONS/ DELETIONS/ REMOVAL OF ITEMS FROM CONSENT AGENDA/ AND CHANGES TO AGENDA

Town Manager spoke on this item stating that one item was added to the agenda. The Town's audit was added to the agenda.

F. GOOD AND WELFARE

Town Clerk read a letter into the record from resident Dina Nicolella, 522 North Parkway.

G. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Singer congratulated the Town and Councilwoman Lusskin on a successful Memorial Day Event. This year surpassed prior years. The attendance was phenomenal and was so big that we ran out of food. Great job to Michael and his staff. It was a beautiful and touching event. Everyone commented on what a beautiful event it was.

Also spoke on the Town's June 1st valuation coming in. It came in very high. We have come up a great amount since then. Hats off to this council with the improvements that we have made, prior councils and the administration a great job on all of the capital improvements that we have made. It is a big success story when the valuations came in. Very proud of that.

Last week the Town Manager, the Chief and Captain met over zoom with the State Attorney, Katherine Fernandez, and her staff. We briefed her on what has been going on in Golden Beach and neighboring communities with car thefts and juvenile. They are extremely short handed, but that is no excuse. The head of juvenile prosecutions was on the call. We made it clear that Golden Beach was going to prosecute violators of the law here. She was very receptive and appreciative and we had about a 90-minute meeting with her. Will have a follow up meeting with her. It was a very productive call.

Hurricane season is here. I cannot urge enough to prepare your home. Just today, we had a huge storm. If you are leaving town, please prepare your home. Summer is here, kids are off school. You need to drive slowly.

Our next meeting is in August. Tonight we have a lot to go over and approve. We have made a lot of progress but have a lot more to do.

Everyone have a great summer.

H. COUNCIL COMMENTS

Vice Mayor Bernstein

Commented on what a wonderful Memorial Day ceremony the town put on. Congratulated all who were involved in putting it on. Congratulated the captain on his promotion.

Councilmember Einstein

Appreciated the work being done with the State Attorney's office with the prosecutions and lowering putting our officers at risk. Stated that the Town handled the big storm event this morning very well.

Councilmember Mendal

Unfortunately, could not make it to Memorial Day, but looking forward to the next one.

Councilmember Lusskin

Thanked everyone for their compliments for Memorial Day. Thanked everyone who worked on the event. It was a special one. Was a little obsessed this year with planning, preparing, and rehearsals. It really turned out to be a very moving, formal event.

Mentioned that Councilwoman Rojas just recently lost her sister. It was a very tough loss. The council and everyone in Golden Beach wishes her well.

There is a tradition of burning unserviceable flags. What we did was follow the rules by the United States in terms of burning it. After my remarks, Sgt. Massi was there with the Color Guard and they stretched out the flag and folded it the correct way with such love and care. Then one of our police officers marched it down to the water to add it to the fire. It was a beautiful ceremony.

I. TOWN MANAGER REPORT

Congratulated Councilwoman Lusskin on a great event. Also congratulated Michael Glidden and the resident services department on a phenomenal job. The pictures taken from the event will be the cover of this month's magazine. Inspired the town to order an actual fire pit.

The mayor mentioned that we did have a successful meeting with the state attorney's office last week. The state attorney has allowed us to no longer need approval from the state attorney for the arrests we make to take them to jail. The state attorney has allowed us to do a Direct File to Jail and she said she was going to direct her staff to ensure that we do that.

On Memorial Day, we did have another incident in town. It is important that our community knows that we are trying to be as transparent and informative as possible, but I am not going to put out every time there is a traffic accident or stop in town. We do continue to see an increase in crime in Northeast Miami-Dade. We are working with the neighboring agencies to put an end to it. Sergeant Bautista is doing well. He is out of the cast and we look forward to Sergeant Bautista starting his light duty assignment as he continues to improve.

The food trucks will be starting over the summer. The food truck schedule will be out soon. We will have a hot dog stand out for 4th of July. This evening, there is a slew of projects that you will be approving.

Storm season is here, and the storms that we have been seeing are micro-storms with a lot of water and a very heavy onset. We do have a rented pump on south island. It is old and took a little while to get started, but once it started working south island dried up rather quickly. If you are going to leave Town during Hurricane season, we are reminding our residents to appoint someone to go onto your property and bring in all of your outdoor furniture. Remember you cannot close your Hurricane shutters and leave them closed during Hurricane season.

Although this evening we were able to introduce three very qualified staff members that are joining our staff, we have not been able to find qualified staff members who are willing to work for a reasonable pay. I say that only as we prepare next year's budget and as we prepare the items for the summer. Cities are now looking at other cities for qualified staff members and we need to maintain an aggressive posture in making sure that our employees do not leave us.

Will be leaving to Israel tomorrow and do not return until June 18th. In absence, Assistant Town Manager Linda Epperson will be the Acting Town Manager.

J. TOWN ATTORNEY REPORT

NONE

K. ORDINANCES – SECOND READING

NONE

L. ORDINANCES - FIRST READING

NONE

M. QUASI JUDICIAL RESOLUTIONS

NONE

N. TOWN MAJOR PROJECTS REPORT/UPDATE

- Civic Center Construction Update
- Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) Update
- Re-Imagined Tweddle Park Update

On the dais this evening, there is a fact sheet that will help you as you talk to your constituents about the delivery of the Civic Center. We expect delivery of the Civic Center by September 22nd of this year. I do not believe we are going to meet that deadline. Yesterday I directed the Town Attorney to write a letter to the contractor putting him on notice. We are seeing significant delays as it relates to the installation of the elevators. It is not something that we are not staying on top of. The rest of the building continues to move along. We have not authorized the stucco and the painting of the building until the eaves and the glass are installed. All of the ceiling grids are in, all of the dry wall has been installed. There is a change order that we are negotiating for the atrium. The interior is moving along and they have asked us if they can install carpet, but we will not do that until all of the dirty work is done.

Our staff and I have been working every day and into the night to resolve the elevator issue. We are going to get it resolved, but just know that right now that is the one thing that is holding us back on meeting the September 22nd deadline. It has been a sour note for us. Lissett Rovira stays on top of the project and sends updates every morning.

As it relates to our CCTV project, this evening you will be approving the purchase of poles. Hotwire has been working with Lissett and Captain Diaz and have done on-site evaluations and they are working with us to get us our skeleton plans to show us the layout of where are locations are. We will be working this summer while we await the pole deliveries on getting water and power at each of the locations. Chief Herbello along with Lissett Rovira and Captain Diaz have already met with most of the Intercoastal properties. So far, there have not been any hard nos.

Mayor Singer asked why water impact?

Town Manager stated that the analytic cameras require they be free of any debris. So you need water to be installed in the camera for it to clean itself and wipe off any debris that might fall there. We also need to make sure that there is deflection on the poles so that the poles do not sway with the wind because any movement of the pole will trigger the camera to alert the guards that there is something going on.

Tonight you will hopefully authorize a change order to Gerrits on the Reimagined Tweddle Park phase one. Phase one is ready to be released. Looking at advancing the shade structure at the park. Going to be looking at adding a wall at the West lot since it is a very vulnerable lot.

Councilmember Einstein asked about whether or not we can control the camera functions that are automatic.

Town Manager stated yes we will be able to control the cameras manually and so will Hotwire from their command center in Deerfield Beach. They will know before we do if a camera is down. Every single camera and router that they operate is monitored 24/7.

O. CONSENT AGENDA

- 1. Official Minutes of the May 16, 2023 Regular Town Council Meeting**
- 2. A Resolution of the Town Council Approving A Mutual Aid Agreement between the Town of Golden Beach and North Miami Beach.**

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH, FLORIDA, APPROVING A MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH POLICE DEPARTMENT AND THE CITY OF NORTH MIAMI BEACH POLICE DEPARTMENT; PROVIDING FOR IMPLEMENTATION; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Exhibit: Agenda Report No. 2
Resolution No. 2875.23

Sponsor: Town Administration

Recommendation: Motion to Approve Resolution No. 2875.23

Consensus vote 5 **Ayes**, 0 **Nays**. Items O1 –O2 pass.

P. TOWN RESOLUTIONS

- 3. A Resolution of the Town Council Authorizing and Approving An Amendment to the Contract with Keith & Associates, Inc.**

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING AN AMENDMENT TO THE CONTRACT BETWEEN THE TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH AND KEITH AND ASSOCIATES, INC.; PROVIDING FOR IMPLEMENTATION; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Exhibit: Agenda Report No. 3
Resolution No. 2876.23

Sponsor: Town Administration

Recommendation: Motion to Approve Resolution No. 2876.23

A motion to approve was made by Councilmember Lusskin, seconded by Councilmember Einstein, and on roll call the following vote ensued:

| | |
|------------------------------|------------|
| Mayor Glenn Singer | <u>Aye</u> |
| Vice Mayor Kenneth Bernstein | <u>Aye</u> |

Councilmember Bernard Einstein Aye
Councilmember Judy Lusskin Aye
Councilmember Jaime Mendal Aye

The motion passed.

Town Manager spoke stating that the Town engaged Keith to look at the drainage in Tweddle Park. This includes all of the civil engineering east of the current Golden Beach Drive. It does not include anything related to pump station #1, nothing for the new youth lot drainage, and provides nothing for the wellness center. As these different projects and phases are coming on board, either Keith or another Civil Engineer will be engaged to provide the civil plans for those projects. Each of those projects are unique unto themselves. The positioning of each of those projects require a unique design for drainage and a unique design for elevation. We have decided as a community that we are going to build this Reimagined Tweddle Park in phases. This just covers your phase one project.

Councilmember Einstein asked why one engineer and not the other.

Town Manager stated that Keith was hired by Gerrits and has already designed most of the project and it did not make sense to bring someone else in.

4. A Resolution of the Town Council Approving Change Order #2 to the Contract with Gerrits Construction, Inc.

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH, FLORIDA, APPROVING CHANGE ORDER #2 TO THE DESIGN-BUILD AGREEMENT WITH GERRITS CONSTRUCTION, INC. FOR THE TOWN'S CIVIC CENTER PROJECT FOR WORK ON THE TOWN'S RECREATIONAL FACILITIES; FINDING THAT THE PURCHASE IS EXEMPT FROM COMPETITIVE BIDDING PURSUANT TO SECTION 2-275 OF THE TOWN CODE; PROVIDING FOR AUTHORIZATION; PROVIDING FOR IMPLEMENTATION AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Exhibit: Agenda Report No. 4
 Resolution No. 2877.23

Sponsor: Town Administration

Recommendation: Motion to Approve Resolution No. 2877.23

A motion to approve was made by Councilmember Lusskin, seconded by Councilmember Mendal, and on roll call the following vote ensued:

Mayor Glenn Singer Aye
Vice Mayor Kenneth Bernstein Aye
Councilmember Bernard Einstein Aye
Councilmember Judy Lusskin Aye
Councilmember Jaime Mendal Aye

The motion passed.

Town Manager stated that tonight's agenda is a little unorthodox as I am asking for leeway and authority to work on projects and move them forward while we are in our summer recess.

In your current Gerrits contract, they are required to deliver to us the tennis courts, basketball court and pickle ball court as well as the dog park. We asked Gerrits to price the Reimagined Tweddle Park because they are required to finish the Stormwater installation. Gerrits contracts out with a company called Dade Contractors and they do the civil work for Gerrits. Lissett Rovira and I have done an overlay of the existing drainage plan and the new drainage plan and calculate the linear feet of new drainage pipes being installed, how many catch basins are being installed, how many new inlets are being installed and then we get a unit price. Dade Contractors is working as a sub for Gerrits doing the civil work and they will be adding the new drainage based on the new park redesign. They will be adding in all of the inlets, retaining walls and elevating the site to a plus or minus three (3) elevation. Because we are no longer using the existing courts, we then had to negotiate with Gerrits a credit for the work that would have been done should we have kept the existing asphalt and the existing site.

We have negotiated with Gerrits a credit of \$237,915 a price that we thought was the value of making our existing courts pretty and keeping the courts at the same location. Gerrits has been working with Legacy Courts to give a price as to what they would do which is after we raise the site, compact the Earth, put in a coarse material, then the asphalt work, curb work, fencing, painting of two (2) hard surface courts, a turf court, and two (2) pickle ball courts as part of the phase one project. In order to validate Legacy's number, we have to work with the Town's court provider, Armor Courts, to give us some of their numbers. Over the next couple of weeks, the Mayor and I will be negotiating with our team with Legacy and Armor to get the best price and the right scope of work to be done as a change to Gerrits.

Should the council agree, we have learned that clay courts require maintenance and that is why we moved away from clay courts to turf courts. What we have learned through this process in meeting with four different park designers and installers, there is technology that has been around for some time that is cushioned. There is a cushion layer that goes beneath the coarse layer that allows for a softer landing while keeping the ball speed and bounce. What I'm asking the council to do is to allow me to work with the two councilmembers that are more invested in this item and I'll work with all of you if need be, but if they both agree to switch from a turf court to a cushioned court this will alleviate any additional maintenance that will be required of us to maintain a turf court. If we can provide an alternative to those individuals who need a softer court and if we do not sacrifice speed of ball, we do not sacrifice the impact to the knees and require less maintenance, it is a win.

I am asking that you approve a budget not to exceed \$875,690 for the purposes of delivering your phase one project as you approved prior to this year. Gerrits contract calls for this work to be done. Because we have gone out to work with other vendors to validate their numbers, we are ensuring that we are getting the best bang for our buck. At this rate, we will still have over \$600,000 for the balance of the project. We did get a \$300,000 allocation in the State's budget and, if the governor does not veto, it would make the balance \$900,000 for this project. Which is the youth lot, dog park and basketball court. We are going to be altering the site plan to be able to salvage eight (8) parking spots in front of the Dog Park and new shade structure that we were originally going to get rid of.

The bulk of the money is raising the site, drainage, the retaining walls, the sidewalks, and the installation of the three courts, all of the fencing, the lighting and the site. We will need to have a very candid discussion later this year about the wellness center elevation as those numbers are coming in very high. If you were to walk the site on a dry day, the ground is very saturated in this area. We are raising the site in order to keep the courts free of water.

Councilmember Einstein stated that it is his understanding that you can fit four pickle ball courts on one tennis court. In terms of the layout, because it is his prediction that things are going to move more towards pickle ball courts in the future, if it is something that could potentially be put in the plan.

Town Manager stated that one of the things we already did at the pickle ball court is remove one of the drainage fields. There is enough space to add a third court there in the future if need be that does not eat away at our green. By your directions, one of the tennis courts will be dual-striped.

Mayor Singer stated that you could put four pickle ball courts on one tennis court, but we are not the YMCA; we do not need seven pickle ball courts. If we had to, we could do that.

Town Manager stated that are drainage is going instead of North to South going East to West that allows us to grow the project.

Councilmember Einstein asked which court will be the turf court.

Town Manager stated that it would be the westernmost court.

Town Manager asked the council to make a motion to accept the item as presented and to work with the council.

Mayor Singer made a motion to alter the surface of the third court, Councilmember Mendal seconded the motion.

5. A Resolution of the Town Council Authorizing the Purchase of IT Equipment for the New Civic Center Complex.

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING THE PURCHASE OF COMPUTER EQUIPMENT FOR THE NEW CIVIC CENTER COMPLEX; PROVIDING FOR IMPLEMENTATION; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Exhibit: Agenda Report No. 5
Resolution No. 2878.23

Sponsor: Town Administration

Recommendation: Motion to Approve Resolution No. 2878.23

A motion to approve was made by Councilmember Luskin, seconded Vice Mayor Bernstein, and on roll call the following vote ensued:

| | |
|--------------------------------|---------------|
| Mayor Glenn Singer | <u>Aye</u> |
| Vice Mayor Kenneth Bernstein | <u>Aye</u> |
| Councilmember Bernard Einstein | <u>Aye</u> |
| Councilmember Judy Luskin | <u>Absent</u> |
| Councilmember Jaime Mendal | <u>Aye</u> |

The motion passed.

Town Manager recognized Emily Cardoso, with IT who joined the call via zoom for this item. We learned from COVID that we need to be able to grab and go with our work and our devices. Currently, we issue out a laptop and an iPad to all of our directors. I am asking the council to be bold with this item. We are looking at more and more cloud based operating. We are going to be looking at workstations that you no longer need a desktop. We are going to be purchasing a robust server that allows us to archive all of our documents and ensures that we are able to move to an on-cloud environment. At all 35 workstations we are going to be creating docking station units. Each station will have screens, keyboards and a mouse with their docking station. The employee will have a laptop assigned to them that will be their workstation. The laptop will be working as our new tower. In the case of an emergency where we will need to work from home, no one needs to buy any equipment, and instead the employee would just take their laptop home. We will no longer need to buy an I-pad or laptop for our directors or support staff because the laptop will be that equipment. If the state announces an emergency, the staff member can just take that workstation with them home. Should the employee decide to depart from the town, we currently have an employee-purchasing program where the employee will get the opportunity to purchase the equipment.

I am asking the council to approve the purchase of these workstations and the purchase of the new server as well as the licensing for it. All of the Microsoft Office programs and Adobe have moved to a subscription-based program. We will now have to budget about \$20,000 on an annual basis for our licensing agreements for our operating software. When we move from a server-based email to a cloud-based email and cloud-based data, our police department will need a subscription to the cloud-based operating system for their current equipment.

Emily Cardoso explained that the subscriptions are there to meet the needs of the employees. These programs can be mixed and matched based on the needs of the employees, which will need to be budgeted for.

Town Manager stated that what he is asking the council to approve tonight is the amount not to exceed \$150,000 for the purchasing of equipment for information technology for the new Civic Center. We had budgeted \$691,000 for this, which includes the furniture, all of the AV, and now the IT. The council has already approved the furniture and the AV. After the approval of this purchase, there will be \$70,000 for other FF&E related costs that we may see throughout the project. We will not be purchasing new printers, everyone will be migrating their local printers with them, which will be replaced when they no longer have a useful life. Along with that, majority of the staff prints from the copier and will continue to print from the centralized copier.

6. A Resolution of the Town Council Approving the Proposal from Florida Power & Light (FPL) to Relocate the Transformer at the Civic Center Complex.

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH, FLORIDA ALLOWING FLORIDA POWER AND LIGHT (FP&L) TO PERFORM THE WORK TO RELOCATE A TRANSFORMER AT THE CENTER OF THE FRONT PLAZA OF THE NEW CIVIC CENTER BUILDING; PROVIDING FOR AUTHORIZATION; PROVIDING FOR IMPLEMENTATION; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Exhibit: Agenda Report No. 6
Resolution No. 2879.23

Sponsor: Town Administration

Recommendation: Motion to Approve Resolution No. 2879.23

A motion to approve was made by Councilmember Mendal, seconded by Vice Mayor Bernstein, and on roll call the following vote ensued:

| | |
|--------------------------------|------------|
| Mayor Glenn Singer | <u>Aye</u> |
| Vice Mayor Kenneth Bernstein | <u>Aye</u> |
| Councilmember Bernard Einstein | <u>Aye</u> |
| Councilmember Judy Lusskin | <u>Aye</u> |
| Councilmember Jaime Mendal | <u>Aye</u> |

The motion passed.

Town Manager spoke on the item. In the foyer area of the new Civic Center plaza, there is a transformer that has been there since the very beginning. When touring the facility with the council, I mentioned the Town’s desire to move the transformer out of the plaza. It was estimated at the time to be \$50,000 but FP&L has worked with us and gave us a final bill with the lowered projected cost of \$26,550 to move the transformer.

7. A Resolution of the Town Council Authorizing and Approving the Purchase of Poles for the Town-Wide Security Camera Upgrade.

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF POLES FOR THE TOWN-WIDE SECURITY CAMERA UPGRADE FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$120,000.00; FINDING THAT THE PURCHASE IS EXEMPT FROM COMPETITIVE BIDDING PURSUANT TO SECTION 2-275 OF THE TOWN CODE; PROVIDING FOR IMPLEMENTATION; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Exhibit: Agenda Report No. 7
Resolution No. 2880.23

Sponsor: Town Administration

Recommendation: Motion to Approve Resolution No. 2880.23

A motion to approve was made by Councilmember Lusskin, seconded by Vice Mayor Bernstein, and on roll call the following vote ensued:

| | |
|--------------------------------|------------|
| Mayor Glenn Singer | <u>Aye</u> |
| Vice Mayor Kenneth Bernstein | <u>Aye</u> |
| Councilmember Bernard Einstein | <u>Aye</u> |
| Councilmember Judy Lusskin | <u>Aye</u> |
| Councilmember Jaime Mendal | <u>Aye</u> |

The motion passed.

Town Manager spoke on the item. It was always agreed that we would provide the poles the power and the water at each of the locations that cameras are being installed. Although the town will be providing the poles, we were able to negotiate with hotwire some of the installation of the poles in some of the most difficult locations. We will be installing the poles in the interior dry side of town and they will install the poles in the exterior wherever there is a waterway at the Intercoastal and the Ocean at thirty (30) locations. This item allows me to negotiate with a variety of vendors for an amount not to exceed \$120,000. The Town will be hiring a company to drill the holes to install our direct barriers and Hotwire will be negotiating with a contract to install the concrete stands that will be needed for their poles. We are still responsible for providing the power and water at each of those locations and I will be working with the Mayor and Council under my spending authority to make sure that we provide power and water at each of these locations. You are not selecting a vendor or the pole. You are allowing the mayor and I the authority to negotiate with each of the vendors that we provided to select the poles and vendors. We are looking at a 3 to 4 month period of pole design and delivery. These poles are designed to reduce deflection and some of them have dampers to help out with that.

Councilmember Einstein asked if we have a catastrophic event and the poles and cameras go down will FEMA reimburse it.

Town Manager stated that one of the companies was somewhat refusing to sell us the poles because they feel as though their poles would not perform as indicated under a Category 4 Hurricane. We are working with their engineers to make sure that the weight we are putting on their poles can perform under a Category 4 Hurricane and similar environments. Whether FEMA covers it or not, we insure everything in Town. Should our insurance not cover- and it should because we have a blanket policy- then we go to FEMA for any costs that will not be reimbursed (such as labor). At each of these locations, we will insure the cameras, the poles, and the remote box. At each pole location there is a separate remote box that are the brains of each location that will also be insured.

Councilmember Einstein asked if we go through a bid process to insure the Civic Center building.

Town Manager stated that we do not because we are part of a big pool of cities that are insured through the League of Cities. The League has been able to put together this very powerful pool of investors to insure our policies. We have found that the league is the best to work with. One of the best things about working with the League is that when there is a claim against our insurance, it does not affect our premiums because of the shared pool along with the other companies. Wanted to thank Melissa Solis from the League of Cities, she worked with her team aggressively to ensure that we were able to extend our builder's risk insurance when we realized that the insurance was going to expire and was able to extend our insurance to the end of October to ensure that during the rest of this construction phase that we have the builders risk insurance.

8. A Resolution of the Town Council Accepting the General Purpose Financial Statements for Fiscal Year 2021-2022.

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH, FLORIDA, ACCEPTING THE GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021/2022 ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2022 PREPARED BY KEEFE, MCCULLOUGH & CO., LLP; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Exhibit: Agenda Report No. 8
Resolution No. 2881.23

Sponsor: Town Administration

Recommendation: Motion to Approve Resolution No. 2881.23

A motion to approve was made by Councilmember Luskin, seconded by Vice Mayor Bernstein, and on roll call the following vote ensued:

| | |
|--------------------------------|------------|
| Mayor Glenn Singer | <u>Aye</u> |
| Vice Mayor Kenneth Bernstein | <u>Aye</u> |
| Councilmember Bernard Einstein | <u>Aye</u> |
| Councilmember Judy Luskin | <u>Aye</u> |
| Councilmember Jaime Mendal | <u>Aye</u> |

The motion passed.

Town Manager spoke on the item. This year's audit is a little delayed, but all industries are delayed in these times with staff shortages. The important thing to note is that we passed all of our stress tests. Maria Camacho and Ingrid Gooden worked this year to test all of our areas.

Our fund balance total is \$6,500,000. Of that balance, you have \$2.6 million due to you from the Stormwater account, \$452,000 set aside for the building department for their software, \$210,000 set aside for any future unforeseen pension issues, \$135,000 should there be an insurance increase for employee health insurance, \$1.9 million was allocated into the Fiscal Year 22-23 budget to meet the cost for your building. We have a very healthy fund balance. We will continue to work to grow our fund balance in the 23-24 fiscal year budget. The reason the audit is not in final form the pension audit needs to be adopted by the pension board and finalized before the audit is finalized.

All of the concerns from our community on whether or not our pension was going to be an additional drain on our town, know that for the fiscal year 23-24 budget, the actual requirement came in under what we currently budget for pension.

As we prepare next year's budget, we feel comfortable that our resources are well.

Are looking to upgrade our software for accounting. That is one area that our auditors have stated that our software is ok but it needs upgrading.

There are two areas that we are seeing strains in our resources. 1. Because we are not able to order new police cars. We are spending a lot of money on maintaining our cars. 2. The other area is the overtime budget, it is over budget and that is because we are spending more on having officers provide extra patrols on Ocean Boulevard to prevent auto theft. We are still in line with our police budget, just over budget with overtime.

Mayor Singer commented that by having no deficiencies it affects our bond rating.

Town Manager stated that although it is still the same firm we had a fresh pair of eyes performing the audit. The managing partner of Keefe, McCullough & Co., LLP ran the audit, but there were two new team members doing the field audit and creating the report.

Councilmember Mendal inquired about the pension.

Town Manager stated that because of how we weathered this year our actuarial requirements actually decreased for next year. The pension performed as expected this year.

Mayor Singer stated that the investment strategy is very conservative. It is not aggressive at all.

Councilmember Mendal asked about the statement of the 76% funded part of the pension.

Town Manager stated that the 76.5% is if the pension were due and collected today. The 97% is the amount needed to be funded should our retirees retire at their normal retirement age. These percentages are if we needed to close the fund today, where we would be. If the Town were to close the pension today and we needed to meet our financial obligations today, we would be at 79% funding. We do not anticipate doing that, so we do not really focus on that number.

Councilmember Einstein stated that the audit is through September 30, 2022. It does not reflect how the market has done since then.

Town Manager stated that each year when we prepare our budget, we allocate projected grants and funding. So when the governor vetoes the money allocated to the Town, we do not see a negative impact. Although the Governor did veto last year our direct appropriations to the spending program due to a very aggressive effort of your Town staff led by your Town Manager, Capital Projects Director and Finance Director, we did receive grants that were not subject to the Governor's veto: \$550,000 for pump station 1, and \$75,000 for a vulnerability study that we may give back.

Vice Mayor Bernstein asked what was the difference between what we originally budgeted for property-assessed values.

Town Manager stated that what we budgeted is the July 1 number for the current budget of \$1.4 billion. Each year on June 1, we are given the June 1 estimate and that allows staff to start planning for budget season. On July 1, we get the final assessed value, and when we get that, we can use those dollars that we are allowed to budget 95% for revenue purposes. Each year, the finance director and I create a 5-year projected plan and we always keep our revenues flat. We also inflate the expected cost of our insurance and utilities and the like. We like to show in the 5-year program that there is enough capacity in the budget to help offset all of our increases.

Councilmember Mendal requested to look at some specifics with the Finance Director and Town Manager to look at some of the numbers with the pension form from last year.

Town Manager asked Councilmember Mendal to please send his questions related to the pension in the audit.

Q. DISCUSSION & DIRECTION TO TOWN MANAGER

Mayor Glenn Singer:
None Requested

Vice Mayor Kenneth Bernstein:
None Requested

Councilmember Bernard Einstein:
None Requested

Councilmember Judy Lusskin:
None Requested

Councilmember Jaime Mendal:
None Requested

Town Manager Alexander Diaz
Asked if we could schedule the August meeting for August 22nd at 6 p.m.
Council agreed.

R. ADJOURNMENT:

A motion to adjourn the Council Meeting was made by Mayor Singer seconded by Councilmember Mendal.

Consensus vote 5 Ayes 0 Nays. Motion passes.

The meeting adjourned at 7:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lissette Perez
Lissette Perez
Town Clerk