



TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH

One Golden Beach Drive
Golden Beach, FL 33160

Official Minutes for the September 26, 2023
Final Budget Hearing & Special Town Council Meeting called for 6:00 P.M.

Zoom Room Meeting ID: 870 5366 7454 Password: 642271

For Dial In Only: Call 929.205.6099 Meeting ID: 870 5366 7454

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, SEPTEMBER 26, 2023.

A. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Mayor Singer Called the meeting to order at 6:12 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

Councilmember's Present: Mayor Glenn Singer, Vice Mayor Kenneth Bernstein, Councilmember Judy Lusskin, Councilmember Bernard Einstein, Councilmember Jaime Mendal

Staff Present: Town Manager Alexander Diaz, Town Attorney Steve Helfman, Assistant Town Manager Linda Epperson, Town Clerk Lissette Perez, Police Captain Yovany Diaz, Finance Director Maria D. Camacho, CIP Director Lissett Rovira, Resident Services Director Michael Glidden, Public Works Director Kirk McKoy, Office Assistant Kaitlyn Dziedzic

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Captain Diaz led the Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Singer asked to allow Senator Pizzo to give his legislative update at this time prior to hearing the budget items.

Senator Pizzo gave his legislative update.

D. ADOPTION OF FINAL COMBINED MILLAGE AND FINAL OPERATING BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023/2024 (TIME CERTAIN ITEM)

- 1. A Resolution of the Town Council Adopting the Final Millage Rate for the Fiscal Year Commencing October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2024.**

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE FINAL MILLAGE RATE OF THE TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH FOR

THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING OCTOBER 1, 2023 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2024 PURSUANT TO FLORIDA STATUTE 200.065 (TRIM BILL); PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Exhibit: Agenda Report No. 1
Resolution No. 2896.23

Sponsor: Town Administration

Recommendation: Motion to Approve Resolution No. 2896.23

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.

2. A Resolution of the Town Council Adopting the Final Budgets for the Fiscal Year Commencing October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2024.

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE FINAL BUDGETS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING OCTOBER 1, 2023 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2024 PURSUANT TO FLORIDA STATUTE 200.065 (TRIM BILL); PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Exhibit: Agenda Report No. 2
Resolution No. 2897.23

Sponsor: Town Administration

Recommendation: Motion to Approve Resolution No. 2897.23

A motion to approve was made by Councilmember Mendal, seconded by Councilmember Lusskin, 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 Attorney Helfman spoke on the items. The first thing that has to be announced at each of these meetings is the proposed millage rate, which he read into the record. The proposed millage rate for the Town for the Fiscal Year commencing on October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2024 is fixed at a rate of 7.6015 mills. The rollback rate is 6.7523. The proposed millage rate is 12% over the rollback rate that the voted debt millage service for the fiscal year will be .7985 mills.

Town Manager gave a brief presentation of the budget and the Town's funds. No changes have been made to the Town's millage rate and budget since the last budget workshop. All of our residents have received the residents digest version of the Town's budget. We are proposing a combined millage of 8.4 mills, which has stayed the same over the last 9 years. The voted debt millage is .7985 while the general obligation mills will be 7.6015 to fund the operations of the Town. At the end of this fiscal year, we will have a proposed fund balance of \$6 million and \$2.6 million of that is the receivable from Stormwater. Finance has been tasked with the yearly review for the audit financials by the March meeting. This year we will be authorizing a combined Capital and General Fund and all of the other fund balances at \$24,521,549 with the general fund at \$14.5 million, the Law Enforcement Trust Fund at \$245,871, the Debt Service at \$1.2 million, and the Capital Improvements Fund at \$7.4 million. That \$7.4 million is allocated for the Civic Center Project. Finally, we have the Stormwater Utility Fund at \$1 million.

Councilmember Mendal asked about the building insurance.

Town Manager stated that the building is under the builder's risk insurance and there is an allocation of \$218,000 should we decide to go insure the building. It was allocated to the 519 Fund. That money cannot be spent without the council's approval. In consultation with the Mayor, we are heavily leaning towards re-insuring for at least one more year so it buys us time to understand what is going on with the Florida Legislature. Will know in March where we are with the fund balance because the audited financials will be done by then. It will give us time to hire the right staff to guide us in that process. The brokers have been slow to respond because the market is not there. The idea is that we will have the money set aside in the budget and should we decide in the October meeting that we want to fund it, we will.

Mayor Singer stated that the town manager and him did decide that if they do go self-insured they would bring it before the council.

Town Manager stated that one of the dialogues with the league is about what would be the costs with going with something that has a standard deduction. We are remaining open to different options.

Councilmember Einstein requested a copy of the proposed policy.

Town Manager stated that as soon as we get the riders and the binders we will get it to them. Also stated that Form 6 does not go into effect until August 2024. This year's deduction starts in January and should end by late February because it is a condensed session because it is an election year.

Town Manager also stated between now and the October meeting we would hopefully have enough time to have spoken with at least one more broker and understand the conditions and risks of self-funding and seeing if there are certain insurances that we

can buy and run the risk on only wind and be able to see what we can insure and we can carve out. Our builder's risk runs through October 31st and we have our meeting before then. If we want to insure for one year, we can do that we have the money set aside to do that in this budget for that purpose. If the council decides that they want to self-insure, then those funds will be set aside if there was an event next year. There is no recommendation for which direction we are going to be heading in.

Vice Mayor Bernstein stated that he has noticed in the past with brokers through experience that they tend to go towards the same people. There are not that many bidders out there.

Town Manager stated that that is an excellent observation. We go directly to them, there's no broker's involved. The brokers that we are meeting with they are looking at PGIT through brown & brown and the League of Cities represent about 80% of the cities in south Florida. The league will not be giving us the final numbers or binders until we are closer to completion date. We will not be renewing our builder's risk. Question is are we going to enter into a binded for storm and wind before October.

E. PRESENTATIONS / TOWN PROCLAMATIONS

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE FROM SENATOR JASON PIZZO

SWEARING-IN OF NEW POLICE OFFICERS STEVEN GONZALEZ AND AMANDA PEREZ

RECOGNITION OF OFFICER OF THE QUARTER JOSE TRUJILLO

F. MOTION TO SET THE AGENDA

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

G. GOOD AND WELFARE

None

H. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Singer congratulated the department heads for their work on the budget. Also, spoke on the Civic Center project and how it is moving along. It is moving along very nice and once it is completed, everyone will be very pleased with it. Very excited and very proud of what this council has done. Site work for the tennis courts is moving along and the elevation is very high. The elevation should alleviate any flooding from occurring. We are working on the Wellness Center and making progress.

I. COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Mendal

Congratulated the staff with the completion of the budget. Thought it was very well done and liked the creation of the silos. It was very clear and gives the Town a purpose moving forward.

Councilmember Einstein

Congratulated the Mayor on the marriage of his daughter. Wished all of the Jewish members of the community a happy new year.

Stated that he was blessed with the birth of a new grandson last Thursday.

Budget is remarkable.

Councilmember Lusskin

Congratulated Councilmember Einstein on the birth of his grandson.

Congratulated the mayor on having a successful surgery.

This is our last meeting of the fiscal year. One thing we overlook is how well we take care of our things. The town is truly immaculate. Public Works is always driving around picking things up.

Golden Beach truly is a special place to live.

Vice Mayor Bernstein

Congratulated the Mayor on his daughter's marriage.

Congratulated Councilmember Einstein for the birth of his grandson.

Reiterated what has been said from everyone about the budget. The substance of what you do each year, a remarkable job by the staff and all involved in putting it together.

J. TOWN MANAGER REPORT

Wanted to say thank you to the Council.

There is no city that he knows of that truly treats family as staff.

Just personally want to say thank you.

I truly believe that when you come to Golden Beach you are part of a bigger family.

Very successful budget process. The reorganization is going to be very good for our community.

Our police department this year has really been tested. With the issues that we have encountered with crime, we are working really hard to ensure expectations are met.

Proud of the work that Rudy has done.

Amber's promotion will show that we are committed to parks and recreation.

The leadership that Kirk has provided in Public Works is second to none.

Our work is not done. We have put into the ground \$67-million worth of projects in our community.

We will be closing the South Gate for the remainder of the week.

South gate will be closed.

Wished the residents a Happy New Year. Congratulated Councilmember Einstein on the birth of his grandson.

We are looking forward to a great fiscal year.

Councilmember Lusskin added that she wished condolences to the Hardoon family.

Town Manager stated that the interactive budget is on the website. Congratulated Maria and Gaby McKoy for their work on it.

K. TOWN ATTORNEY REPORT

None

L. ORDINANCES – SECOND READING

3. An Ordinance of the Town Council of the Town of Golden Beach Amending the Town of Golden Beach Employees' Pension Plan.

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH, FLORIDA, AMENDING CHAPTER 24, "PERSONNEL," ARTICLE II, "RETIREMENT," DIVISION 1 "GENERAL EMPLOYEES" BY AMENDING THE TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH EMPLOYEES PENSION PLAN AT SECTION 24-31 "DEFINITIONS"; SECTION 24-33 "BENEFIT AMOUNTS AND ELIGIBILITY"; 24-36 "ADMINISTRATION"; SECTION 24-37 "FINANCES AND FUND MANAGEMENT"; CREATING SECTION 24-41 "DEFERRED RETIREMENT OPTION PLAN"; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Exhibit: Agenda Report No. 3
Ordinance No. 604.23

Sponsor: Town Administration

Recommendation: Motion to Approve Ordinance No. 604.23

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

Mayor Glenn Singer	<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 stated that what this item does is put us in line with what other cities do, specifically Bal Harbour, and specifically to our long-term committed employees. What this ordinance does is allows an employee who has been with the town for 25 years to collect their pension at age 55 and if an employee works for the town for 30 years they can collect their pension regardless of age. Wanted to be transparent, at the last meeting he stated that the DROP has not impact that is not completely accurate. But there would only be an impact if all of employees elected the DROP at the same time, which the chances of that are highly unlikely. Reminded the Council and staff, with the DROP it allows employees to elect retirement after 25 years at age 55, after 30 years of service or age 65 and when they enter the DROP, they continue to work for us while collecting their retirement funds in a savings

account that builds over the course of 3 years. This was extended to 5 years for the police.

Starting with this budget there will be no employee in golden beach making less than \$20 an hour.

Mayor Singer stated that the longevity of the employees of Golden Beach it is amazing. My hats off. Knows everyone works very hard.

M. ORDINANCES - FIRST READING

None

N. QUASI JUDICIAL RESOLUTIONS

None

O. TOWN MAJOR PROJECTS REPORT/UPDATE

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

Under contract, the civic center is due to be delivered at the end of this week. We are not going to make that deadline. There are still a couple of elements needed to be done for the building to be right. This is not a mismanagement of the project; this is punch list items that need to be corrected.

The park project is well underway. Right now, we are working on the lighting. We hope to have delivery of the park project sometime after the first quarter of the year.

I do not know what happened this weekend, but four residents called me about the tot lot. The tot lot is not going to be affected until after we build the Wellness Center.

We are waiting for our poles. The poles are supposed to be delivered in January. Hotwire has submitted their plans for FDOT permitting. CCTV is moving along at a very good pace.

Councilmember Mendal asked if there were any issues with the easements.

Town Manager stated that the good news is that none of our residents with poles going into their backyard has a problem with that. Working with the attorney to see what we can do. No resident has said no I do not want it. Hopefully we will get the intercoastal up and running before the end of the year.

Want Council to be clear on where I stand with wellness. We are not going to go out to bid for design services and space options. Lissett Rovira and I have been working on several design options. Goal is that the town will design the building with a team of architects that live in our community. They are guiding us on what works, what does not work. We are going to be bringing a design by both the October and November meeting. Hopefully, the Council will decide at the November meeting which you like or do not like. This gives us the Winter Break to go through design, take January through March to get the construction documents ready to have those documents ready for

council approval by March and go out to bid in March, and sometime in June award a design-build contract. That will be fully bid for construction. It is important because we have an all-in not to exceed \$5.5-million. So we want to make sure we approve a design that we can build.

Councilmember Einstein asked about change orders and if the Council can approve those.

Town Manager stated that although we have been successful the last two years with asking the State for money, they were vetoed. Do not want to build a building contingent on possible dollars. We have already made two changes about what floor system we are going to use and moving the heavy equipment from the 2nd floor to the 1st floor.

Vice Mayor Bernstein asked if it is being designed with a second floor and could you add to the building later?

Town Manager stated yes and stated that we are going to bring to you several options, not going to shove anything down your throats. The thought is that this board and the residents' board will control that option.

Town Manager stated that we are not going to oversize this and make it specific to Golden Beach.

P. CONSENT AGENDA

- 4. Official Minutes of the August 22, 2023 Special Town Council Meeting**
- 5. Official Minutes of the September 12, 2023 First Budget Hearing**
- 6. A Resolution of the Town Council Approving the Payment of \$4,000 to the Women's Breast and Heart Initiative.**

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING THE PAYMENT OF \$4,000.00 TO THE WOMEN'S BREAST AND HEART INITIATIVE FOR THE 12TH ANNUAL BREAST CANACER GOLF TOURNAMENT; PROVIDING FOR IMPLEMENTATION; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Exhibit: Agenda Report No. 6
Resolution No. 2898.23

Sponsor: Town Administration

Recommendation: Motion to Approve Resolution No. 2898.23

- 7. A Resolution of the Town Council Approving a Memorandum of Understanding between the Town and the Department of Homeland Security.**

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH, FLORIDA, APPROVING A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE TOWN AND THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY (HSI) "EL DORADO TASK FORCE-SOUTH; PROVIDING FOR IMPLEMENTATION; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Exhibit: Agenda Report No. 7
Resolution No. 2899.23

Sponsor: Town Administration

Recommendation: Motion to Approve Resolution No. 2899.23

8. A Resolution of the Town Council Approving the Interlocal Agreement for Re-establishing the 1993 Local Option Gas Tax between the County and Eligible Municipalities, including Golden Beach.

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH, FLORIDA, APPROVING THE INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT FOR REESTABLISHING THE "1993 LOCAL OPTION GAS TAX" BETWEEN THE COUNTY AND ELIGIBLE MUNICIPALITIES (INCLUDING THE TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH) FOR THE 30-YEAR PERIOD INCLUDING JANUARY 1, 2024 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2053 ; AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR ON BEHALF OF THE TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH TO EXECUTE SAID AGREEMENT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Exhibit: Agenda Report No. 8
Resolution No. 2900.23

Sponsor: Town Administration

Recommendation: Motion to Approve Resolution No. 2900.23

Consensus vote 5 Ayes, 0 Nays. Items P4-P8 pass.

Q. TOWN RESOLUTIONS

9. A Resolution of the Town Council Approving A Contract with Arrow Asphalt & Engineering, Inc. for Roadway Improvements within South Parkway and The Strand Entry.

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING A CONTRACT WITH ARROW ASPHALT & ENGINEERING, INC. FOR ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS WITHIN SOUTH PARKWAY & THE STRAND ENTRY; PROVIDING FOR

WAIVER OF COMPETITIVE BIDDING; PROVIDING FOR IMPLEMENTATION; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Exhibit: Agenda Report No. 9
Resolution No. 2901.23

Sponsor: Town Administration

Recommendation: Motion to Approve Resolution No. 2901.23

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 stated that we are going to pay for this out of this budget. Goal is to remill and resurface the roadways in the parkways and seal coat The Strand to the East and to the Bridge. The reason you are not seeing Golden Beach Drive as part of this item is because we have been able to negotiate with Miami-Dade County for them to resurface and remill Golden Beach Drive with the exception of the Y in Singer Park. This is South Parkway and the entrance at the Strand.

10. A Resolution of the Town Council Approving Amendment #1 to the Fiscal Year Operating Budget To Award Employee Bonuses.

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH, FLORIDA, APPROVING AMENDMENT #1 TO THE 2022-2023 FISCAL YEAR OPERATING BUDGET FOR THE PURPOSE OF AWARDED EMPLOYEE BONUSES AND AMENDING THE ORIGINALLY ADOPTED BUDGET; PROVIDING FOR IMPLEMENTATION; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Exhibit: Agenda Report No. 10
Resolution No. 2902.23

Sponsor: Town Administration

Recommendation: Motion to Approve Resolution No. 2902.23

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

The motion passed.

Mayor Singer spoke on the item. Well-deserved of all of the employees and I congratulate all of the staff.

R. 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
None Requested

Town Manager requested that the October Meeting be moved to Tuesday, October 24th. It gives more time to go over the insurance issue and flesh out the floor plans.

S. ADJOURNMENT:

A motion to adjourn the Council Meeting was made by Vice Mayor Bernstein seconded by Councilmember Lusskin.

Consensus vote 5 Ayes 0 Nays. Motion passes.

The meeting adjourned at 8:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lissette Perez
Lissette Perez
Town Clerk