



TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH

One Golden Beach Drive
Golden Beach, FL 33160

Official Minutes for the June 18, 2024
Regular Town Council Meeting called for 6:00 P.M.

Zoom Room Meeting ID: 848 4670 5084 Password: 949843

For Dial In Only: Call 305.224.1968 Meeting ID: 848 4670 5084

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 18, 2024.

A. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Mayor Singer called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

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

Staff Present: Town Manager Alexander Diaz, Town Attorney Steve Helfman, Assistant Town Manager Linda Epperson, Town Clerk Lissette Perez, Police Chief Rudy Herbello, Police Captain Yovany Diaz, Building and Zoning Director Lissett Rovira, Finance Director Maria D. Camacho, Public Works Director Kirk McKoy, Resident Services Director Michael Glidden, Administrative Assistant Eric Garcia, HR Generalist and Assistant to the Town Clerk Elena Cheung

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chief Rudy Herbello led the Pledge of Allegiance

D. PRESENTATIONS / TOWN PROCLAMATIONS

SENATOR JASON PIZZO LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

POWER/FLOODING EVENT WEEK OF JUNE 10TH

Mayor Singer Before we move on with the reports, I have to first thank the Public Works Department. These guys weathered the storms like no one else; they were out there in four feet water cleaning the drains and cleaning up the garbage pretty much for 48 hours straight. We appreciate so much of what you do and you've done a phenomenal job and I can't thank you enough. My hats off to you. I know my fellow councilmembers thank you and I'm sure the residents thank you too for your hard and dedicated work. I also want to thank Chief Rudy Herbello and the Police Department. They did a phenomenal job. When the power was out, we had on one day 18 officers on duty protecting the town. They were here 24/7 for those three days nonstop securing the town. I want to hold off questions until each of the representatives speak.

FPL Report

- Alex Fillis, Senior External Affairs Advisor for FPL, provided clarity on last week's outage and what we can do moving forward. As historical context, 10 years ago, the town completed an investment to underground the powerlines that currently serve Golden Beach. It is noted that last week's outage was the first major outage experienced by the town since these investments were made. Even though underground utilities provide greater reliability, there is no perfect system. Underground systems are still vulnerable to flooding events.
- Last week South Florida was inundated with multiple days of destructive winds, excessive lightning and extensive rainfall leading to record flooding in parts of Miami-Dade County and Broward County as well. Hallandale and Hollywood saw nearly 20 inches of rain in just 48 hours. The average total rainfall for South Florida between June and August is 23 inches. So, it's accurate to say that Golden Beach experienced a summer's worth of rainfall in two days as did Hallandale.
- Initially, Golden Beach lost power on Wednesday, June 12th at 3:20 pm due to extensive flooding in the area surrounding our electrical substation at Hallandale Beach which provides Golden Beach's primary source of power. Originally, we believed that the flooding had actually intruded into the substation which was conveyed to the Town on Wednesday night. We now know that it was the flooding around the substation that was the issue, not necessarily flooding inside the substation. We do our best in times of crisis to give accurate and timely information to our stakeholders. As soon as I learned of this change in fact on Thursday morning, I conveyed it to Mayor Singer. According to the Town Manager, flooding in Golden Beach had receded by 11:00 pm Wednesday. However, it wasn't until 7:00 am on Thursday that our crews were able to confirm the flooding around the substation in Hallandale had receded to a level that it was once again safe to work. Just as we stress the importance of staying away from flood waters to our customers, FPL crews must also wait for flooding to recede before re-energizing underground powerlines. By 11:30 am we re-energized the feeder line and 80% of the customers served by that line were restored. This does not necessarily mean that 80% of Golden Beach was restored as that feeder line powers other communities as well.
- In the course of our restoration work, it became evident that two switching cabinets in Golden Beach were damaged in the flooding and not working. Although large portions of the customers were restored via loop switching, the customers served by the two switch cabinets remain without power until we were able to replace at least one of those cabinets which was done at 11:30 pm Thursday night. At 2:30 am Friday, all power was restored as our crews worked overnight to switch the remaining customers without power to a backup source. This week, FPL is replacing the second cabinet to restore primary power to all Golden Beach customers.
- Golden Beach's system, just as all systems powered by FPL, are built with redundancy. For underground facilities, they can only be switched over to

secondary feed once flooding recedes. Switching to a secondary feed which is a primary feed for another community while they're still under water, would've created a fault that would've taken out power for customers who were primarily served by that line. However, the fact that the Town's power has been fully restored since Friday before the second switching cabinet, is a result of the redundancy that we have built into the system.

- It is reasonable to ask what last week's outage means as we head into what is expected to be an active hurricane season. Fortunately for Golden Beach, your electrical grid remains protected from storm force winds. When a hurricane is forecast to impact any part of the state, FPL mobilizes all its resources from across the state so that we can respond in full force once conditions are safe. It's our sincere hope that we don't have to take these measures in the next few months. But rest assured, we will be ready if and when South Florida encounters a hurricane.
- Last week's storm was truly an anomaly. Our electrical grid, wastewater management system and transportation network were all adversely impacted. For Golden Beach, the critical issue was, is and will always be how bad is the flooding and when does it recede.
- We are aware of a story that appeared on local news on Friday. To provide greater clarity, I'd like to clear up a few questions that may have arisen from that reporting. Footage from that report showed damage to switching cabinets located in Golden Beach transformer yard on Massini Avenue. To anyone watching, it would appear that the condition of these switching cabinets was the cause of the outage. I want to stress that this is not the case. The initial outage was due to flooding around our Hallandale substation and the prolonged outage was a result of subsequent flood damage to two switching cabinets that were well south of the yard at Massini Avenue. The switching cabinets on Massini Avenue remained operational throughout last week's storm and did not contribute to the outage in any way.
- To reiterate, Golden Beach suffered from two different outage events—the flooding around the Hallandale substation and the compromised switching cabinets. As always, our crews work tirelessly to rectify these issues as soon as possible; but we understand the great difficulty Golden Beach endured as we work to do so.

Town Manager Report

- As early as Monday of that week, we started receiving rainwater here in Golden Beach and our grounds started to become saturated. On Tuesday, we started to see occasional flooding in South Island and the south part of town at Tweddle Park. On Wednesday, when we started to see that there was more accumulation of water, we did an investigation. We have one pump in Tweddle Park, one pump in South Park, pumps in North, Center and portable pumps were all working.

- At around 3:20 pm when we lost power, we quickly deployed our generators to Center Island and Tweddle Park to get those two pumps up and running, keeping in mind that we had diminished capacity in South Island and Tweddle Park given the fact that both those stations are down to one pump.
- At approximately 4:16 pm, I declared a state of emergency in the Town of Golden Beach because the amount of rain exceeded the capacity of that we had to pump those waters out. The Mayor agreed to the emergency declaration.
- At that time, after fifteen vehicles were stuck on Golden Beach Drive, we closed the town to vehicular traffic coming in and we did not let our residents come back into town. We asked our residents to park in the east and west lots; we provided pizza, sodas and water while they waited out the storm. The vehicles that were moving in town were residents trying to leave town which added three more cars to be stranded on Golden Beach Drive.
- Around 5:00 pm, all our sewer pump stations overflowed into the streets, and we had raw sewage in the streets. I ordered none of our vehicles, including Police or Public Works, to move throughout the community so we don't exacerbate the issue.
- Once the rain stopped around 10:00 pm, we quickly saw the waters receding; our pumps were working. By 11:30 pm, I notified FPL that all our streets and pump stations were clear.
- To address the rumor calls, we received a call of five individuals that were seen in town. There were no burglaries and no homes that were entered. Police staff and I searched home by home on the north end of town. There were no burglars, and no homes were broken into, unlike what was conveyed in the chat.
- By 7:00 am, FPL crews reported to town. We had all our Public Works staff members and staff from Southeastern Engineering clearing our streets and sidewalks, making our town clean again. FPL crews were working on getting our power restored. Throughout that time, we had at least 18 police officers.
- On Thursday morning, we went door to door asking all our residents if they needed any assistance. We provided ice, water and food to some of our residents who required assistance. After making sure that all 380 homes were conducted a search and finding there were no incidents inside the homes, we reported that to the Mayor and Council.
- Of course, our residents were frustrated; the decision to close the town was not made lightly. When we had fifteen vehicles stranded on Golden Beach Drive and we had raw sewage floating in our streets, it was deemed a health hazard, and we closed the town. We kept our residents inconvenienced for three and a half hours; we did provide refreshments and food to those residents that were inconvenienced.
- We reopened the town at approximately 10:30 pm. Residents were allowed to make their way back to their homes. We provided security throughout the night.
- Our response efforts could not have gone any better. What have we learned? Because we do have two pumps that are currently under contract for maintenance and although we have three portable pumps and we have secured

three additional pumps to be onsite for hurricane season, and one additional generator, know that even if we had those pumps in town, we would have been able to get the water out a little faster; but we would have still flooded. The amount of water that fell exceeded our current capacity for our pumps.

- I know that a lot of our residents in the chat were asking if we should put in more pumps and get more pipes. It's not as simple as adding more pumps. The infrastructure for those pumps would need to be changed. Know that because of our maintenance program, we have a one million dollar pump upgrade for Tweddle Park; both those pumps are being replaced at no cost to the residents. Last year we received \$320,000 for three portable pumps that were deployed.
- Our staff were here making sure the community was safe. I know that residents were frustrated and angry that we did not let you in the community for that time. That decision was made to keep you and our staff safe. We cannot have residents going through Golden Beach and getting stranded or having our staff going out to help residents with raw sewage floating in the streets. The only person that was traversing throughout the community that night was myself. I waded through raw sewage to make sure all our pumps were running. In the chat where the messages said that our pumps were not running, or our generators did not come on, are false. I personally ensured that all our pumps continued to run, and we did not run out of gas at any of our pump stations.
- With the help of our Public Works crew, we made sure all our pumps were operational throughout the night until 4:30 am. I'm not sure, absent this act of nature, what else we could have done to keep the floodwaters at bay. Our pumps were functioning. We do have two pumps that are missing because they are being repaired and worked on. Our generators were functioning. We did have a generator issue at North Park where the battery did not work. We quickly replaced the battery and got it up and running within minutes. I want to thank all our men and women that serve in our police department; and to Kirk and his team for being here in the rain, wading through waters making sure that our community was kept clean. And more importantly, after the storm, we were able to recover quickly. We cleaned private properties and vehicles; and we made sure our streets were as beautiful as they are today. I want to publicly thank Public Works, the Police Department and our men and women who work in Administration who went door to door the day after ensuring our residents were safe.

Town Engineer Report

- Orlando from Steve Smith. Miami-Dade County's road design criteria for local roads are for 1 in 5 years storm events. That's what you're designed for. What you received last week between 16 and 20 inches of rainfall in two days, that's exceeded more than what this system can handle. You will recover but you are going to flood. Mother nature outpaces all of us when it comes to these scenarios. We will continue to work closer with the town and the vendors on the maintenance recommendations of the pumps so that they happen quickly. And

make sure the critical infrastructures are addressed as soon as possible so we can get these pumps running when we get hit with a storm like this.

Town Manager To let everyone know, currently at Singer Park, we have one portable pump that we were able to secure through a state grant; at North Park, we have two submerged pumps with a generator on-site that has an automatic transfer switch; on Center Island, we have two submerged pumps with a generator that is not standby nor on a ATS system. We need to revisit the position of that generator; as the council will remember, that generator was objected to by the neighbor to have it there permanently. I think we need to revisit permanently putting in that generator. At South Island, we have two submerged pumps with a generator on with an ATS. Currently, there is one pump removed from that station. In March, we removed that pump to get it fixed because the saltwater we received from 416 Golden Beach Drive corroded that motor, so we are replacing that pump. On South Island Bridge, we have a portable pump that is permanently fixed to keep South Island clear. At Twedde Park, we have two above ground pumps with a standby generator. The Town has applied for grants to get pumps on South Island and North Island. And we're looking at the portable pumps at Singer Park. On South Island and North Island, our issue is real estate. Where could we put those pumps? Once we receive the funding, we'll deal with the real estate issue. But that's where your current pump system is currently allocated.

Hotwire Report

- David Cejas, Senior Director. We deeply regret the inconvenience this caused and appreciate your patience and understanding during this unforeseen weather event. The matter is still being investigated at the moment. Obviously, we know that there was a power failure which affected everyone's ability to have Hotwire services. After the power was restored, there were a number of homes that remained without service. Our team continued working to address that matter throughout the weekend. Due to the sensitive nature of some of the products that we're providing, not just the residents but to city administration, there are limitations to some of the details that we can provide at this moment. However, I assure you that we're taking all necessary steps to resolve the issues thoroughly. The investigation goes on to exactly what caused these homes to remain affected. At this point, all services have been restored. We're currently investigating to identify what that root cause was and ensure that we look into ways to prevent similar issues in the future. Hotwire performs extremely well in storm situations; we have a very good track record of assuring that the network stays up in events like this one. Here it was a bit of Murphy's Law; something that happened after the storm. It was unexpected; it triggered something. We're investigating; we're going to get to the bottom of it. And we'll provide a report to the administration as soon as we conclude that. We understand the critical importance of reliable service that we provide to the city. We are dedicated to delivering the highest standards of performance and support. I want to assure you that we're committed to continuously improving our infrastructure and our response to better serve you.

Mayor Singer opened up the floor to questions

Frank Miller If flooding is such a compelling issue, why are all the utilities, particularly the transformers, below base flood elevation?

Town Manager I can't speak to the position of FPL's transformers. The town has raised its minimum of first floor elevation to 9 NAVD. Over the last couple of years we've sent over twenty emails to FPL to look at tilting transformers, blighted transformers; just recently we asked to have the three transformers behind this new building to be elevated on new pads. They asked us for a check to do that, even though we believe their system should be maintained by them. I don't know why they set them the way they are. That's a question for them; we're not their engineers.

Alex Fillis I can get back with some more detailed information as to the height of our transformers. Of course, what I'll say is that we comply with regulation, so when a base flood elevation is set, we will build to that just as any other utility will do so.

Mayor Singer opened up Zoom to questions

Question: Why do sewers overflow with the storm? I understand there's an infiltration but is that separate system and should it overflow?

Town Manager The Miami-Dade water and sewer pumps (we have five in town) do not have generators. More importantly, because their lines are so porous, once groundwater enters the system and exceeds the well capacities, you'll have sewer overflows. Seventeen years ago when I started my career here, I came from Water and Sewer and this was an area I was responsible for. When you don't have power, your pumps can't pump and so you have sewer overflows. The next day, they came out and put generators and drew down the system. Know that the Mayor and I demanded as early as July, we are going to be seeing Water and Sewer and spending over \$1.5 million to create a sealed force main system at no cost to our residents. The entire force main starting at Singer Park all the way to Sunny Isles will be replaced with a sealed system that will help when there are rain events like this. And in addition to that, the pump station in North Park and Pump Station 493 are being upgraded at no cost to the residents so we can have additional capacity. As it relates to generators at their pump stations, Water and Sewer has over 40,000 pump stations throughout Miami-Dade County; it's almost impossible for them to provide backup power at all those locations. So that's maybe something that we will add to our list of us adding additional capacity as part of our system and partnership of Water and Sewer if we can have standby generators there, we will do so. Know that this is not a resource issue. We have spent over \$14.3 million in our sewer and stormwater system and over \$6.5 million in our underground utility system.

Mayor Singer About two months ago, the Manager and I met with DERM to secure this project and told them we need to expedite it.

Lior Ben Shmuel I have a question for the engineers. Is there a way of improving that to a disaster storm with what the infrastructure that we have? Also, my question to FPL, we can have everything great on the Golden Beach side, but if FPL doesn't handle what's going on in Hallandale, what are they going to do to fix that problem?

Orlando You can engineer a new system but it's going to be a new system. If you put a pumping station that's going to pump at a greater capacity, the station is going to have to get bigger, the drainage system and pipe network is going to have to get bigger to make sure the station is getting water. Space is an issue too.

Town Manager We will have three additional portable pumps throughout storm season and during the summer and winter solstice to provide that immediate relief in the areas that need them. We've already ordered them and they're on the way. While we explore capacity, we will make sure we have temporary portable pumps as needed.

Alex Fillis It's important to reiterate that there is no perfect foolproof storm system. We have overhead and underground facilities. With overhead facilities, you're going to deal with vegetation-related issues and flooding will always be the challenge for underground facilities, although reliability will generally be better. When it comes to worrying about Golden Beach, as soon as that flooding recedes, we can go in and we can restore power. It's important to remember that what we experienced last week was historical. We noted the switching cabinets were in disrepair temporarily. If those switching cabinets are in working order, even if we have an issue with the main feeder line, we can switch to your secondary feed which comes from Sunny Isles Beach. But as it happened, you had an issue with the primary feeder and the switching cabinets which prevented us from being able to switch you over as quickly as we would've liked. These are not regular occurrences. We responded as best we could but there were challenges. As we move forward, we'll continue to try to increase reliability so that we can get you back up and running as quickly as possible.

Town Manager There are two questions on the chat and I'll summarize both. Both questions are asking what are we doing for hurricane season. We will take on an additional three pumps by the end of the week; we are renting them from NWI. And we are going to take on a additional generator to make sure if one of our generators goes down, we have it available. The second part of the second question is the communication that received from all our vendors, from FPL specifically, seems to have been a little bit misleading or not accurate. I think Alex did a great job in clarifying. In the heat of the storm, we're getting information from the field and sometimes that information is coming to us third hand. We immediately conveyed that message to our residents. That night we put our four code reds that gave you that information. In the morning when the actual events were clarified, FPL provided us a quick recap of what happened, and we put that out. So, know that sometimes the misinformation is not intentional; it's what we're getting in the middle of the storm. The crews that are out there are doing the best they can to give us that information. As soon as we found out that maybe the information was not as accurate as we would like for it to be, we sent out the correct information. I will say the FPL app as it relates to notifications of outages, needs fine tuning on the text messages that comes through the app. Know that it is an issue that we are aware of.

Alex Finnis As we work on restoration, issues become apparent that we didn't previously know. We knew that the feeder line coming out of the Hallandale substation was temporarily out of commission. But it was only when we energized the feeder line at 11:30am, that we realized that we now have an issue with the switching cabinet. For residents who got the restoration updates, that was just us learning more about the situation. This was all happening very rapidly; we didn't have all the information in the beginning; we worked to gather it and as we gathered it, we did our best to communicate it to all of you. We do understand the frustration.

Town Manager There is one more question in the chat that relates to Hotwire asking if the infrastructure above the flood level heights. The Hotwire cabinets at our Tweddle Park location are being moved into the second floor of the Civic Center. That will help with our redundancy with Hotwire. In moving the entire operation into the Civic Center this month, that will help with the flooding issues that occurred. I want to acknowledge that in the middle of the storm as we started to lose power, Hotwire did deploy two backup generators and pumps to the Tweddle Park location to make sure the equipment was kept viable. This storm caught a lot of us by surprise and know that we will do our very best to keep our community safe. In closing, we understand that this was a very frustrating event, and we acknowledge that. But know that the Town will always do its best to keep the community and our residents safe.

Mr. Ellinson Spoke about the two sewers in front of his house and too much mulch/debris leading to clogging of the sewers. As you all know, the sewers work on gravity. Just before the storm hit, they dumped in two truckloads of mulch. The sewers were clogged with mulch. My nephew and I were out there for three hours trying to clean the sewers. Every time we push it away it just gets pushed back so we can't have a gravity system. Everyone wants to blame the pumps. We have times where there was no rain and at low tide, the water should've dissipated, but it didn't. Why? Because our sewers were clogged. Why? Because we're putting mulch and other debris in our street. I've lived here for forty years and I've lost 5 cars for the same reason. Nobody cares about taking care of the problems at hand. All I'm hearing is how proud and happy you are for catastrophe. This catastrophe never should have happened. One, mulch shouldn't be used; all that does is clog up your sewers. Two, you have a sewer system that did not work in front of my house. I have two sewers in front of my house; neither one of them worked.

Michael Klinger I think everyone did an amazing job. I saw people from the Town doing things that I would not do myself.

Frank Miller One more thing for FPL to consider. I have family living in Bal Harbour. Bal Harbour and Golden Beach have two things in common—a flooding problem and underground utilities. Bal Harbour never lost power and they had the same flooding issues that we had. I'm asking FPL to look into comparatively, what happened here. Maybe there's something they can learn from how Bal Harbour's power's been fed that might assist them in addressing the issue coming out of Hallandale Beach.

Alex Fillis I would say that had the substation that provides power to Bal Harbour been inundated with that level of rainfall, they would have experienced a similar outage. Of course, whenever we have these kinds of storms, we do go back and look at what we did right, what we did wrong, what we can learn from it. That assessment is ongoing. We're regularly trying to improve our infrastructure. You just got hit with the very worst of the storm. Because Bal Harbour is served from a different substation that was not hit so hard, they fared better. But had that storm hit that substation, we'd probably be in Bal Harbour right now.

Town Manager In closing, on behalf of the staff and administration, we will endeavor to continue to work with our partners to ensure that we have a program as safeguard as we can. We don't take lightly the events that occurred here last week. We will continue to work throughout the summer to have redundancy and additional capacity in our system. The resources that we have will be put to use to make sure that we get through

hurricane season. The most important thing we can do is to commit to our residents and the public that we will not rest on our laurels and we will continue to provide the services that we do around the clock to keep our community safe. And know that this summer during hurricane season, we will have additional pumping capacity and generators on hand and moving forward we have additional capacity in the system. We learned that capacity is an issue and we will work to address that.

Mayor Singer I want to clarify that this was a terrible storm, but it was not a catastrophe. There was no loss of life; that's a catastrophe. Yes, we lost power, but it was not a catastrophe. I want everyone to know that this Council and the Administration knows that we can do better and we're committed to do better. We're not up here praising ourselves. I am praising the Police Department and Public Works because they did everything they could within their means. They did a phenomenal job so they do deserve praise. We are committed to this town and we will improve and we will make changes. We'll make sure if something like this does happen again, we're better prepared.

Councilmember Mendal Being without power for a couple of hours does not compare to losing your life. Everyone needs to understand that this was an act of God. I think everyone did the best they can. Yes, we can always do better. Yes, we can always learn as Alex from FPL said. Thankfully, we've had no real major issues here. And that's all thanks to the Police Department and to Kirk and his crew who did a fantastic job.

Councilmember Lusskin Obviously, there's things the town needs to do better to make an event like this easier. Hotwire and FPL need to kick it up a notch to make things better. We're accountable, we're responsible and we will move forward. I received a couple of calls from residents whose properties were lower. When I first moved into Town, there was a time where people were adding sand to their property and grass would grow through it and raise their property a bit. Is that something we might entertain? Another thing is retaining walls. If there were any issues with retaining walls, it certainly happens now. I hope you're right about the retaining wall that we're putting up in the new park. Sunny Isles put out a notice to their residents that if they had flooding, they can contact the town manager there in regards to any insurance possibilities or potential, so I don't know if that's something we can consider.

Vice Mayor Einstein I appreciate all the efforts on the administration's part and the maintenance's part. I saw these people out there. This storm was a tremendous, unusual event. I know we could do a better job, but there's just no way you can prevent this. I want to thank everyone who went out and was away from their families to try to aid us during this time. There was no town in South Florida that had the protection and security that we did and people should not forget that. On national news, Hallandale was the number one item on the channels. I think everybody did everything they could that was humanly possible.

Councilmember Bernstein I want to thank FPL, Steve Smith and Hotwire for coming out so soon after the storm and being accountable and transparent. I know a lot of residents are very frustrated but there are a lot of other communities that are much worse off than us. I have a question for Orlando. We thought out this system almost 17 years ago. I know the algorithms you went to with the EPA based on certain metrics. Given that with the change in environment, is there a likelihood if we went back to EPA, that we would be able to push our capacity even more so. I know that you said that

even if we were able to increase our capacity, it would be millions of dollars. But is there something we could be looking at to determine if we even have the ability to change anything beyond the current capacity that we have?

Orlando We can change it because we're discharging to tidal waters; we're not discharging to a South Florida salinity control structure. We can increase the discharge; it's going to require a bigger boat. You need a bigger station; you're going to need to revisit your pipe network. Like you said, 17 years ago we weren't thinking about sea level rise changes, that's also affecting coastal communities. You're going to have roads in the near future being under water a lot more frequently because of sea level rise. Those are things that would have to be looked at as well. It's just the design logistics of getting a bigger station into an existing developed town is what's challenging.

E. MOTION TO SET THE AGENDA

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

Town Manager At 3:00pm, we emailed the Council a Development Agreement for consideration as part of a negotiation settlement for the three variances that will be heard. In addition, we added Item 11. Item 11 is specifically related to the purchase of an unmarked unit for the Detective unit.

F. GOOD AND WELFARE

Dr. Martin Karpf is running for Miami-Dade School Board. August 5th starts early voting. August 20th is election day. There are opportunities to vote by mail. I encourage everybody to go out and vote for school board. We want to ensure our school district is healthy.

Dina Nicolella Town Clerk read her letter into record asking the town to re-examine our current water management infrastructure and plans; it has been close to ten years since our original CIP project. Listed support and maintenance ideas.

Town Manager I was reminded by one of our staff members of our need to continue to invest in the equipment for our Public Works team. As Ms. Nicolella mentioned, we will be looking at getting vehicles of higher capacity that could go through flood waters.

G. MAYOR'S REPORT

The summer is here; you need to prepare for hurricanes. This was just a teaser. I can't urge people enough to get their homes prepared for the storms. I would recommend people getting generators. I'm not telling you how to spend your money but a generator helps tremendously. I want to congratulate us for receiving \$850,000 from the State Legislature for our infrastructure project that will help with our Wellness Center and the raising of it to help prevent sea rise.

H. COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Lusskin None

Councilmember Mendal None

Vice Mayor Einstein None

Councilmember Bernstein I wanted to praise the hard work that everyone did. Alex and staff were there around the clock in Golden Beach while your homes were at risk. Alex, I don't know if people realize that when the automatic switch didn't happen, you were out there manually doing it. I just want to recognize this including Chief Herbello and Kirk and the Public Works department. For some reason I'm hearing that the Mayor and all these people should be doing things because they're paid. I want to acknowledge that the Mayor and the Council are not paid anything for this. I want to thank the Senator for everything he's done for us and helping us with the grant. Dina Nicoletto brought up that we might consider getting some sort of vehicle where we can traverse through these waters should these events occur again. I saw some comments where Sunny Isles has a link for residents to detail their damages to help the city assessing damages. For all residents who are new here, whenever there's a hurricane, Golden Beach is an evacuation zone.

I. TOWN MANAGER REPORT

This summer we will be working with our new architect who will be awarded the contract tonight for the Wellness Center. We plan to have a workshop after the summer to make sure our residents are a part of the design process and we hope to bring something to you at the August meeting. I wanted to publicly thank the Mayor for his partnership in working to make sure we had money in the state budget. Unlike the last three years where our money has been vetoed by the Governor, he went the extra mile and used all his resources to make sure the Governor was aware of Golden Beach and that we survived the Governor's veto pen. We did receive an additional \$850,000 in the state budget this year bringing our total free money to Golden Beach in the last seventeen years to \$48.8 million for a community of only 380 homes. Thank you to the Council for their continuous support in all of our requests; we will be working extra to get more money for additional projects.

Also thank you to Ms. Maria Camacho, for the fifteenth year in a row the General Finance Government Association (GFOA) awarded the Town of Golden Beach the Budget of Excellence Award. That is the fifteenth year in a row where our budget has been examined independently and has found no flaws in the budget. So for any of our residents who feel that we are wasteful and not using our dollars the way we should, the independent organization GFOA has awarded the town the Budget of Excellence award for the fifteenth year in a row.

Sergeant Bautista graduated from the SBI Academy. Under Chief Herbello's leadership, we have had five employees go through the SBI training. It is the highest level of supervisor training provided in the country. Graduating from SBI school is not an easy feat. Thank you to the Chief for bringing SBI to our community and since you have been our chief, we've had five graduates.

Reminder to our residents, it is hurricane season. If you plan to leave town for the season, please bring in all your outdoor equipment. Also, provide us with an emergency contact number; sign up for our Code Red; know that we're going to be here to make sure your homes will be protected during hurricane season.

We will be in summer recess. The council will not meet again until the end of August. I want to wish all our residents a happy and safe summer.

J. TOWN MAJOR PROJECTS REPORT/UPDATE

- Civic Center Construction Update

- Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) Update
- Re-Imagined Tweddle Park Update
- Pump Station #1 Update
- Wellness Center Project Update

Town Manager In the interest of time and given we just gave a report at the last meeting, we'll be providing a written report as it relates to the updates. As you know, we are in the Civic Center; our CCTV project is under way; we're going to be awarding a contract tonight for the Wellness Center; Reimagined Tweddle Park will be open in the middle of July; and that is a quick update. I will provide a written update.

K. TOWN ATTORNEY REPORT

The Town was part of a large group of municipalities throughout the state who undertook a challenge to a state law which was incredibly invasive in terms of privacy of all elected officials. It's been put on hold. It would've required disclosure of personal information in terms of your wealth, assets, sources of income, everything down to personal jewelry and items such as that. There were two lawsuits filed, one in federal court and we were successful in getting a preliminary injunction against the state and prohibiting the state in enforcing the new law. In order to get that, the court had to determine that there was a substantial likelihood that we were going to win the main case and put in a statewide injunction so that no municipal officials in Florida need comply. I will keep you abreast of the final decision as we go forward, probably towards October before we get a final injunction. I expect that the state will probably try to come back and do something more reasonable consistent with what they had in place for decades.

L. ORDINANCES – SECOND READING

None

M. ORDINANCES - FIRST READING

None

N. QUASI JUDICIAL RESOLUTIONS

Mayor Singer For Resolutions 1, 2, and 3, I'm going to refer to the Town Attorney.

Town Attorney Last meeting, I encouraged the Council to defer this item because I felt like that, they were close to resolving their disputes. I'm pleased to tell you that that has happened. There is an agreement amongst the neighboring owners. It does require a handful of variances that are all within the scope of the three items which were separate variances. What I'm going to ask you to do because of the unusual nature of this application is to read each of these items, all three together. And then if you decide to grant the respective variances, we're going to do it in one vote and it is going to approve a Development Order which you have in front of you. The Development Order sets forth the four different variances that are granted and then it has conditions; the main condition is that this is a project specific approval. Meaning that these aren't blanket variances that can be then be put to a new design. This is all tied to a very specific plan tied to the development order which is the project that will be built. If there is a variation from it, it has to come back through the hearing process. And everything that's not addressed in this, has to be built in accordance with the code as it exists today, not modified codes in the future. So, read all three of them and we'll open the public hearing after that and act on the development order.

1. A Resolution of the Town Council Approving Variance Requests for the Property Located at 476 North Parkway to Allow for a Second Floor Step-In Exemption.

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING VARIANCE REQUESTS FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 476 NORTH PARKWAY, GOLDEN BEACH, FLORIDA 33160. TO PERMIT THE UPPER SECTION OF THE PROPOSED STRUCTURE TO NOT INCREASE THE SIDE SETBACKS ALONG TWO-THIRDS OF THE SECOND STORY BY ONE FOOT FOR EACH ONE FOOT (1:1) OF BUILDING HEIGHT ABOVE THE 18 FEET, WHEN THE CODE REQUIRES A REQUIRES AN INCREASE TO THE SIDE SETBACKS ALONG TWO-THIRDS OF THE LENGTH OF THE SECOND STORY BY ONE FOOT (1:1) OF BUILDING HEIGHT ABOVE THE FIRST 18'.

Exhibit: Agenda Report No. 1
Resolution No. 2937.24

Sponsor: Town Administration

Recommendation: Motion to Approve Resolution No. 2937.24

A motion to approve Golden Beach Development Order 24-001 was made by Councilmember Lusskin, seconded by Councilmember Bernstein, and on roll call the following vote ensued:

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

The motion passed

Town Attorney I want to explain exactly what you're approving so that we're all clear. There will be four variances granted to allow this project to be approved. There is a side setback variance for the pool; second story side setback variance; lot grade variance; and a variance that allows certain decks and walkways to be elevated more than 36" above the crown of the road which is the code requirement.

2. A Resolution of the Town Council Approving Variance Requests for the Property Located at 476 North Parkway for the Swimming Pool Setback.

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING VARIANCE REQUESTS FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 476 NORTH PARKWAY, GOLDEN BEACH, FLORIDA 33160. TO PERMIT THE POOL TO BE SETBACK 7.5" FROM THE

SIDE YARD PROPERTY LINES, WHEN THE CODE REQUIRES A REQUIRES THE POOL TO BE SETBACK 10'.

Exhibit: Agenda Report No. 2
Resolution No. 2938.24

Sponsor: Town Administration

Recommendation: Motion to Approve Resolution No. 2938.24

A motion to approve Golden Beach Development Order 24-001 was made by Councilmember Lusskin, seconded by Councilmember Bernstein, and on roll call the following vote ensued:

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

The motion passed

*****Refer to Item #1 for final motion as this item was approved as part of Development Order 24-001.*****

3. A Resolution of the Town Council Approving Variance Requests for the Property Located at 476 North Parkway for A Lot Grade Change.

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING VARIANCE REQUESTS FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 476 NORTH PARKWAY, GOLDEN BEACH, FLORIDA 33160. TO PERMIT THE FINISHED GRADE OF THE LOT TO BE AT 10.04' NGVD, AND EXTERIOR SLABS, DECKS, AND WALKWAYS TO EXCEED THE CROWN OF THE ROAD, WITH AN ELEVATION NOT TO EXCEED 10' NGVD.

Exhibit: Agenda Report No. 3
Resolution No. 2939.24

Sponsor: Town Administration

Recommendation: Motion to Approve Resolution No. 2939.24

A motion to approve Golden Beach Development Order 24-001 was made by Councilmember Lusskin, seconded by Councilmember Bernstein, and on roll call the following vote ensued:

Mayor Glenn Singer	<u>Aye</u>
Vice Mayor Bernard Einstein	<u>Aye</u>
Councilmember Kenneth Bernstein	<u>Aye</u>

Councilmember Judy Lusskin Aye
Councilmember Jaime Mendal Aye

The motion passed

*****Refer to Item #1 for final motion as this item was approved as part of Development Order 24-001.*****

4. A Resolution of the Town Council Approving Variance Requests for the Property Located at 284 South Island Drive pertaining to Permit A Lot Grade Change.

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING VARIANCE REQUESTS FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 284 SOUTH ISLAND DRIVE, GOLDEN BEACH, FLORIDA 33160. TO PERMIT THE FINISHED GRADE OF THE LOT TO BE AT 6' NGVD, WHEN 4.886' NGVD IS PERMITTED, EXTERIOR SLABS, DECKS, AND WALKWAYS NOT TO EXCEED AN ELEVATION OF 6' NGVD, WHEN 4.64' NGVD IS PERMITTED, AND TO ALLOW THE FRONT STAIRS TO BE AT AN ELEVATION OF 8.25' NGVD WHEN THE CODE REQUIRES 7.886' NGVD.

Exhibit: Agenda Report No. 4
Resolution No. 2948.24

Sponsor: Town Administration

Recommendation: Motion to Approve Resolution No. 2948.24

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

The motion passed

Town Manager This applicant is similar to what Mr. Klinger had requested as it relates to elevation differences. In working with this applicant, we were able to get the minimal request in so they can transition from the roadway into their property. Know that these types of variances we're going to be eliminating. We're going to be bringing to Council an item for August addressing this. There is no objection by any of the neighbors or the public, so we recommend this item

O. CONSENT AGENDA

5. Official Minutes of the May 21, 2024 Special Town Council Meeting

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 Bernard Einstein	<u>Aye</u>
Councilmember Kenneth Bernstein	<u>Aye</u>
Councilmember Judy Lusskin	<u>Aye</u>
Councilmember Jaime Mendal	<u>Aye</u>

The motion passed

6. A Resolution of the Town Council Authorizing the Purchase of Five Chevrolet Tahoe Police Vehicles.

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE AND EQUIPPING OF FIVE CHEVROLET TAHOE POLICE VEHICLES AND THE USE OF GENERAL FUNDS TO PURCHASE AND EQUIP THE VEHICLES; PROVIDING FOR IMPLEMENTATION; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Exhibit: Agenda Report No.6
Resolution No. 2949.24

Sponsor: Town Administration

Recommendation: Motion to Approve Resolution No. 2949.24

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 Bernard Einstein	<u>Aye</u>
Councilmember Kenneth Bernstein	<u>Aye</u>
Councilmember Judy Lusskin	<u>Aye</u>
Councilmember Jaime Mendal	<u>Aye</u>

The motion passed

7. A Resolution of the Town Council Approving the Repair of the Stormwater Pump at South Park.

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING THE SCOPE OF WORK FROM MWI PUMPS FOR THE REPAIR OF THE STORMWATER PUMP AT SOUTH PARK IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$25,859.96; PROVIDING FOR IMPLEMENTATION; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Exhibit: Agenda Report No.7
Resolution No. 2950.24

Sponsor: Town Administration

Recommendation: Motion to Approve Resolution No. 2950.24

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 Bernard Einstein	<u>Aye</u>
Councilmember Kenneth Bernstein	<u>Aye</u>
Councilmember Judy Lusskin	<u>Aye</u>
Councilmember Jaime Mendal	<u>Aye</u>

The motion passed

8. A Resolution of the Town Council Approving the Installation of a 36” Wastop Valve for the South Island Outfall.

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH, FLORIDA, APPROVING THE PROPOSAL PROVIDED BY SOUTHEASTERN ENGINEERING CONTRACTORS, INC. FOR THE INSTALLATION OF A 36” WASTOP VALVE FOR THE SOUTH ISLAND OUTFALL, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$37,150.00; PROVIDING FOR IMPLEMENTATION; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Exhibit: Agenda Report No.8
Resolution No. 2951.24

Sponsor: Town Administration

Recommendation: Motion to Approve Resolution No. 2951.24

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 Bernard Einstein	<u>Aye</u>
Councilmember Kenneth Bernstein	<u>Aye</u>
Councilmember Judy Lusskin	<u>Aye</u>
Councilmember Jaime Mendal	<u>Aye</u>

The motion passed

P. TOWN RESOLUTIONS

9. A Resolution of the Town Council Authorizing the Mayor and Town Manager To Take Any and All Corrective Measures to Rectify

Stormwater System Energizing Capabilities in the Town during Emergency Events.

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND TOWN MANAGER TO TAKE CORRECTIVE MEASURES TO RECTIFY STORMWATER SYSTEM ENERGIZING CAPABILITIES IN TOWN DURING EMERGENCY EVENTS; PROVIDING FOR IMPLEMENTATION; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Exhibit: Agenda Report No. 9
Resolution No. 2952.24

Sponsor: Town Administration

Recommendation: Motion to Approve Resolution No. 2952.24

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 Bernard Einstein	<u>Aye</u>
Councilmember Kenneth Bernstein	<u>Aye</u>
Councilmember Judy Lusskin	<u>Aye</u>
Councilmember Jaime Mendal	<u>Aye</u>

The motion passed

10. A Resolution of the Town Council Awarding the Request for Submittals for the Wellness Center Project to Eric Dempsey Architect, LLC.

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH, FLORIDA APPROVING A STANDARD FORM AGREEMENT (AIA DOCUMENT B101-2017) FOR ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES BETWEEN THE TOWN AND ERIC DEMPSEY ARCHITECTURE LLC; PROVIDING FOR IMPLEMENTATION AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Exhibit: Agenda Report No. 10
Resolution No. 2953.24

Sponsor: Town Administration

Recommendation: Motion to Approve Resolution No. 2953.24

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 Bernard Einstein	<u>Aye</u>
Councilmember Kenneth Bernstein	<u>Aye</u>
Councilmember Judy Lusskin	<u>Aye</u>
Councilmember Jaime Mendal	<u>Aye</u>

The motion passed

Town Manager During the workshop, the Council directed me to negotiate a contract with Eric Dempsey who is the architect the Town feels is best to work with for the community. You're not approving a design; you're authorizing me to work with Steve to get a final contract in place; you're authorizing an amount not to exceed \$310,000. That is in phases; the entire monies are not being released; it is broken down into benchmarks and phases. This summer I am working with Paul Abbott and the rest of our team to make sure we get a design that we're comfortable with. At the end of the summer, we'll meet with the residents to make sure the design that we have meets their expectations and needs. We will individually meet with you to make sure all of your desires and wishes are part of the design. Hopefully at the August meeting we'll have preliminary drawings for the Council to consider. Our goal is to have bid documents ready to issue a construction bid at your November meeting so we can get bids throughout the winter break. I know that is a difficult time of the year to get bids but the goal is to have something awarded before your February council meeting. Know that we will be working aggressively throughout the summer to get the design you desire. We will be working hand in hand with each of you and the 47 members of our Wellness Center Advisory Committee to make sure their input is taken into account. I trust that Eric can do what we need; he is committed to working with the Town. Paul and I both feel comfortable working with Eric. Know that we're ready for this. This is the right decision. If at the end of the process, we're not happy with what we have, we can then make decisions. But I don't think we going to be unhappy with it.

Q. DISCUSSION & DIRECTION TO TOWN MANAGER

Mayor Glenn Singer:
None Requested

Vice Mayor Bernard Einstein:
None Requested

Councilmember Kenneth Bernstein:
None Requested

Councilmember Judy Lusskin:
None Requested

Councilmember Jaime Mendal:
None Requested

Town Manager Alexander Diaz
None Requested

Town Manager Reminded the Council that they're in summer recess until August 27th. The next meeting will be a Special Town Council meeting on August 27th at 6:00 pm. Tomorrow the town is closed in recognition of Juneteenth.

R. ADJOURNMENT:

A motion to adjourn the Council Meeting was made by Councilmember Mendal and seconded by Councilmember Lusskin.

Consensus vote 5 Ayes 0 Nays. Motion passes.

The meeting adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisette Perez

Lisette Perez
Town Clerk