



TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH

100 Ocean Boulevard
Golden Beach, FL 33160

Official Minutes for the August 27, 2024
Special Town Council Meeting called for 6:00 P.M.

Zoom Room Meeting ID: 860 3122 9862 Password: 737506

For Dial In Only: Call 305.224.1968 Meeting ID: 860 3122 9862

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, AUGUST 27, 2024.

A. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

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

B. ROLL CALL

Councilmembers Present: Mayor Glenn Singer, Vice Mayor Bernard Einstein via Zoom, Councilmember Judy Lusskin, Councilmember Jaime Mendal

Councilmember Not Present: Councilmember Kenneth Bernstein

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

Sergeant Joseph Bautista is in charge of handling the ID cards for the residents. I wanted to let you know that we have a packet in the front lobby. All you have to do is fill out the packet that was emailed to all the residents. Once you do that, send that back with a digital photo of the person so we can implement it into the IDs. It has to be a digital photo similar to passport photos and not a picture of the ID photo. Give us about five to ten business days. We're going to try to go out on Fridays to drop off the IDs for your convenience. We're switching out the old ID cards and cleaning up the system. The new ID cards will be able to access the tennis courts, the pavilion bathrooms, the pedestrian gates, etc.

Mayor Singer I can't urge you enough to get the ID cards. It is an added protection and security for the town. You are going to need them to use the restrooms at the beach

pavilion, the gates, tennis and pickleball courts, and when you go to the beach. It's an added layer of protection for the residents and everyone needs to get one.

Town Manager If you do not update your resident ID card, know that there will come a point where your transponder will no longer open the vehicular gate. So get it done or just know that you will be having delays at the entrance gate.

Mayor Singer introduced Bowie, the new police service dog and Detective Pete Vila to explain a new program.

Detective Pete Vila I've been a cop for 27 years and I've been through a lot of critical situations where officers need help. I came to the Manager and the Chief with the idea of a therapy dog. A lot of times people don't want to talk to other people and just want to see a man's best friend. He or she understands us better than we do. They don't critique us; they don't say no. We got Bowie from a dog rescue service. They have 750 dogs and none of them get euthanized. They go through a battery of training with people with disabilities, autism, mental health, veterans; he went to school for three months and passed everything; then he became an added member of our police department.

Town Manager It's important for our residents to recognize mental illness is a growing concern in our community; children on the spectrum; the dynamics of our communities are changing. We listened to our residents in terms of how our community is evolving and changing. Detective Vila came to me about adding an emotional support canine. And now we have an instrument that could help our residents and employees, and those individuals who come to our community who may be timid or need support. And we embrace what our residents tell us. I want to thank Chief Herbello, Capt. Diaz and Detective Vila for making this happen. We are one of a few cities in the tri-county area to take on this needed resource.

Chief Rudy Herbello I'm going to recap what we presently have in place to ensure the safety of our residents and visitors. The Mayor, Town Manager and myself proactively engage in meetings and brainstorming in an effort to bring new innovative ideas to enhance safety capabilities of the town.

Let's talk manpower. We currently have 32 officers; some of them have been reassigned to shifts where we need them the most, which is the midnight shift. We have brought back detached officers to increase staffing. We are proactively doing high visibility inside the town; I'm sure you have noticed that as officers patrol inside the town with the lights on. And we are also using the public service aids to patrol inside the town. We have the exit detail where we place an officer at the Strand exit from 11:00 PM to 6:00 AM to not only deter crime, but as cars come out, we try to identify who's driving the car to prevent cars being stolen. We are doing constant traffic enforcement detail at night. We are getting a new motorcycle to increase that effort. In addition to Pete Vila's dog, we now also have a canine bomb dog, which has become the envy of many police departments including the Secret Service. We have received calls from other agencies to utilize the dog.

When it comes to high visibility, we have hosted and invited many police agencies from Miami-Dade and Broward to come train in town. This not only helps with training our officers, but it helps with police presence in town. When it comes to the CCTV cameras, the installation of the new poles and lenses, it is ongoing and at full speed. In

the end, we will have over 200 lenses in town with high-definition performance. Besides our regular weekly marine patrol assignments, we have been hosting multi-agency marine patrol operations that have produced excellent results and reviews. The town will be installing retractable gates on the beach in the attempt to minimize pedestrian entry into town at night on the beach side. If approved by the Council today, we are getting a drone to assist us to patrol in the air the outside perimeter of the town. This is only for the public areas of the town. We have a very strong partnership with all neighboring law enforcement agencies that will assist us in a minute with a phone call.

Town Manager It's been remarkable to have the chief as part of our team for the last 14 years and I could not have picked a better chief to join us. This summer we did a lot to enhance our security. There are some things that we are going to push the envelope on. The most important thing that our residents need to know is that we don't sit back on our laurels and just say we've got a great team. We continue to expand on all our programs. Make sure we have the best trained agency in South Florida. We've now become a trainer of trainers. We have seen over 17 agencies come to our community this summer and train in Golden Beach. How is a city of 380 houses, training police departments of over 800 men and women who serve their agencies? Starting as soon as they're finished being constructed hopefully at the end of the week, we will have two new gates on the north and south side of town, asking people to traverse on Ocean Blvd, not on the sand. From 10 PM to 6 AM, our beaches will be closed. If you are a resident, you can go out to your backyard. We are trying to minimize the foot traffic on ocean itself. The drone is automatic that does automatic patrols letting us know when we see things. So, we continue to expand and stay current in our policing efforts, and I want to thank Chief Herbello, Capt. Diaz, and Lt. Perez for all of the hard work, and the thirty men and women who serve in our police department.

Mayor Singer I want to welcome Stephanie Vega from the Miami-Dade Commission of Ethics and Public Trust.

E. MOTION TO SET THE AGENDA

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

Town Manager Item 2964.24 has been added to the agenda appointing a member to the Pension Board.

F. GOOD AND WELFARE

Natalie Eilenberg Spoke about the ongoing issue about the south gate closure. I have lived in the south end for eleven years and have experienced the south gate opened and closed. For the majority of Golden Beach's existence there was no south gate and no complaints regarding the matter. I feel that what many here are failing to see is that we will be building amenities that cater to young children in an area that will be likely fill with many pedestrians. It is dangerous and a liability to have continuous traffic passing through. It is a real safety concern. It is my understanding that if there's an emergency, the south gate, similar to the north gate will open. I have spoken to neighbors that live in the south area and they fully support my view.

Terry Sunn Also spoke about south gate closure. I don't have a pro or a con, just listening to what a lot of people are saying on the chat. I'll give an example. This morning, there were two lawn company vehicles there and a police officer across the street that did not ask them to move. And not even a half mile down, there was a cement truck. And the Manager and I had a

discussion that from 7 to 9 in the morning, we could open the south gate and if not that, we would have the police make sure nobody would do construction along A1A that would back up the traffic. The other day it took me an extra 15 minutes to get from the Strand to William Lehman because there was a garbage truck and two construction trucks there. If we could do something along those lines it would make life easier for a lot of people.

Alan Benenson (via Zoom) There's two things that were brought up to find out if something can be done to assist the morning traffic on A1A. There's always either somebody cutting the trees or trash pick up during the prime rush hour in the morning when everybody's trying to take their kids to school. If there's a possibility that the city could move the work to inside Golden Beach and not deal with A1A during rush hour, I think that's something that could be accommodated. The other comment was the light at the Strand. Now that there's only one exit, when I try to exit, there's a line of traffic to get out. Is there a way the timing of the light at the Strand could be extended to let the flow of traffic out of Golden Beach to get out to A1A faster? Right now, there's so much traffic coming from north to south that you can't even turn right to go south.

Mayor Singer I've asked the Manager last week to notify FDOT if we can extend the timing of the light and we're working on that.

Town Manager At the direction of the Town Council and the Mayor, after hearing all the feedback that they received over the summer from our residents as it relates to the south gate closing and we have been talking about the closure for the last eleven years. The following Administrative Order has been issued and the Mayor has consented to it. Starting next Monday, no longer are you allowed to park on Golden Beach Drive prior to 9am in any direction—so no more parking on Golden Beach Drive prior to 9am. Prior to 10am, no southbound permits will be issued for pouring concrete or construction activity or deliveries or drop-offs on Ocean Blvd. So southbound, no vehicle can pull a permit to stop or close a lane going south on A1A; also prior to 10am no garbage activity will be done southbound.

Last week, the Mayor directed me to send a letter to FDOT asking to extend the light at the Strand during peak hours—the hours of 7am and 10am and in the afternoon between 5pm and 7pm. While the state responds to our request, the police will be manning the pickle (what controls the light at the strand) during peak hours to extend the time.

To recap, we will no longer allow parking on Golden Beach Drive prior to 9am; we will no longer allow any type of activity in the southbound lanes on Ocean Blvd prior to 10am; no construction pours or big deliveries. Police have been instructed if they pull somebody over to take them further down the way so we have no blocking of traffic on southbound lanes.

To clarify the rumor, we will absolutely still have the south gate for emergencies. We will open the south gate and allow the residents to safely maneuver around and the Public Works yard to go around that area. So the south gate will still be functional for emergency purposes which is our agreement with Golden Gate Estates. The south gate is not going away; we still have a way to get in and out of town during emergencies.

I know that most of you are speaking specifically as it relates to vehicular activity; know that, as it relates to our pedestrian activity, all our pedestrians are now asked to go through the new reimagined Tweddle Park to the new Sabbath friendly gate underneath the Civic Center that leads you to our new Sabbath sidewalk, and at the request of all of our residents, and under the direction of our Mayor, we now have an emergency call box. The call box is heat-sensitive. You just stand in front of it for an extended period of time, it will ring; so it's Sabbath friendly for emergencies at the south end of town.

Ricardo Kassin (via Zoom) You just mentioned all the cameras that are being put up on the beach, on the intracoastal and on Golden Beach Drive. Any additional cameras being put up on the islands? Because when we had a conversation, Alex Diaz said "I don't have a poll to put it."

There is now a poll. I'm wondering if you changed your mind and decided to put a camera on the center of the island.

Town Manager Know that as our camera system was laid out, with the exception, if a homeowner objected to allowing us to do it, which a few did, I would say that 98% of our open spaces are now covered under camera, including our waterways and canals, Golden Beach Drive, parkways, Ocean Blvd and the ocean.

Ricardo Kassin (via Zoom) My question is about South Island Drive, Center Island Drive and North Island Drive. I had asked or requested to have a camera in the center of each island, because it doesn't seem that the cameras on each end properly cover the whole street. Like I said, there is a pole now in the middle of the of the island, at least in South Island and I was wondering if you're planning to put a camera there which I would thank you for.

Town Manager This isn't the appropriate venue for this type of dialogue. So, if you like, you could schedule a meeting.

Ricardo Kassin (via Zoom) I think it's the exact venue for this type of dialogue. I'm not asking for one camera in front of Center Island or South Island only, I'm talking about everybody's islands, all the residents.

Mayor Singer It's my understanding and I'll confirm it after, that as the Town Manager mentioned, 98% of the town is under camera. I know on North Island when you go over the bridge there's a camera on that road that watches whether someone enters or exits the islands that's on north, center and south. Then I know in the cul de sacs there's cameras. And my understanding is that the cameras between the cul de sac and the ones on entering the exit the island cover 99% of the islands. But I don't want to say something that's not true. Let me check.

Ricardo Kassin (via Zoom) Would it be possible for me to go and see the new cameras what they look like on the cul de sac? Because I'm telling you, Mr. Mayor the center of the islands cannot be covered with the cameras on the cul-de-sac. If something happens, somebody gets run over at the at the intersections of where the bridges come into the island, you'll never find that.

Mayor Singer Safety and security is our main concern. Give us after the meeting. Tomorrow I will sit with the Town Manager and go over the camera situation again, and one of us will get back to you.

Ricardo Kassin (via Zoom) My second question, the IDs that we received, is that what is going to be used to open the gates?

Town Manager If you recently have come in and received a new ID, those are your key fobs. So, their ID is a fob, and those will open all of the pedestrian gates, gates at the pickleball courts, tennis courts, and the restrooms.

Keila Stiberman (via Zoom) My question is, when did the town close all of its gates? I think we had 4 different exits on A1A from Golden Beach drive. When were those exits closed for safety and security purposes?

Town Manager Let me just give a general statement because a lot of our residents don't actively participate in our town council meetings. Good and Welfare is an opportunity for the residents to express their positions and give statements. It is not a forum for us to have to answer questions or get into into back and forth. So we will gather your request and then we'll respond to you in writing. Good and Welfare forum is for an opportunity for our residents to express their positions, point out their questions, and we'll respond to them in writing.

Keila Stiberman (via Zoom) We would like to really discuss further, more exit points, not only for South Island, but for North Island as well. Maybe we can open up Verona. That would be a very easy no cost for our residents to exit through that road. And so that's something that we really want to look into. I don't think we're just happy with "No, it's not happening." We want to hear reasons why. We want to be able to have that opportunity. We would like to hear options.

Alan Benenson (via Zoom) I just want to comment about the amount of boats speeding on the Intracoastal that's out of control. Is there anything else you guys are considering? I know the State has not allowed to put a no wake sign to lower the boat speed. Just so you know that it's a continued problem. If there's anything that can be done to control the speeding boats behind Golden Beach, and if there's anything that's being done to control who's at the beach?

Town Manager I think it's important, because I love the amount of participation that we're having, and I'd love to see that the over 30 people that are on the on the zoom. I want to make sure that people aren't feeling offended or or cut off. The reason our good and welfare rules exist is we do have a full agenda. So when you hear us say time or cut speaker off, it's not because we don't value your opinion. In fact, we'd love to hear it. Please send them to us in writing. We're not trying to be rude or disingenuous. The reality is good and welfare is set aside for the residents to let us know what they're thinking with a very limited amount of time. So please, if anyone's offended by the time, or we seem like we're just brushing you off, the process is designed that way so that we could keep the agenda moving. We will let 100 people speak, but at the two minute mark. So I don't want anyone to feel that we're doing it because we're trying to silence your voice. That's not the case. These have been the rules, at least for the 17 years that I've been your manager, and it's just to keep the business moving forward.

G. MAYOR'S REPORT

We are going to approve the new millage rate of 8.4 mills. This is our 9th year in a row that the millage rate is staying the same. Our asset values have almost reached 1.9 billion dollars. That is affording the town to improve our infrastructure, to make the town additionally safe and to add amenities for the residents. Hats off to Maria and the Finance department and the Town Manager for putting together a great budget again this year. Very excited to present it at the next meeting to go over the budget. We were also able to receive about \$850,000 from Tallahassee to help with the infrastructure of the new Wellness Center. The Wellness Center is moving along. Tonight, we're going to receive a presentation on that. Your input was very much appreciated. The tennis and pickleball courts would have been completed two weeks ago if it wasn't for the weather. The tennis people can't work on the courts unless it is 100% dry. We're still in hurricane season; I can't urge the residents enough to be prepared, especially if you go away. School has started, I urge everyone, especially driving down Golden Beach Drive to not be on their cellphone, to go slow and to pay attention.

Our top priority is security. Call boxes have already been added. The camera project is moving along. We're adding the gates on the north and south side that will be deployed at sunset. That will deter people from walking along the coast at night. I think it's a big deterrent and added security especially for the beach residents. The drone will be a great addition to the police department, and I commend the police department and the chief for doing a phenomenal job.

Regarding the south gate being closed, just so everyone knows, it's not like we threw this at you overnight. We've been talking about closing the south gate for over a year. We've done research after research to maximize the security of this town. You have one entrance and one exit. This way you control everything. It makes everything safe. I understand that it's a little inconvenient because we've been spoiled. But when the Council and I and the Manager make a decision, it's what's best for the entire town. We do not favor the north side, the south side, or the beach residents. We do what's best for the community.

Regarding the neighborhood chat, we have to stop the misinformation. For example, during the summer a boat washed ashore with five immigrants; three were caught immediately and two

were eventually caught down south. Someone was calling me and saying there were 30 illegal immigrants running through town. It wasn't true. There were only five. I urge residents that if you ever have a question or concern, to call town hall. Call my cell; the number is provided to everyone. Same with the Council. The Town Manager and the Chief are available 24/7. I think the neighborhood chat is phenomenal for what it initially came out to be. The only thing I ask is don't put up information if you don't know. If you have a question, call; there's always someone to answer and help you out. Misinformation causes panic and chaos. If there is a major situation and the residents need to be aware, we're going to put it on the 911 reverse call.

Town Manager I'm sorry for interrupting, when we closed for Good and Welfare, we never asked if there were people on Zoom who wished to speak during Good and Welfare. So before the Council goes on, if we could allow the people on Zoom for Good and Welfare. We should go back to Good and Welfare and then go to Council.

H. COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Mendal I think the Mayor and the Town Manager already covered almost everything. So I just want to welcome everyone back from the summer. We have a very busy agenda starting now. I'm hoping that all the participation that we have here tonight translates to next month, where we have the budgets. So hopefully, everyone comes and participates there, too.

Councilmember Lusskin I don't want to belabor too much over the south gate, because we've actually talked about it ad nauseam. However, I think with some of the suggestions that the Mayor and the Town Manager put in, modifying the traffic on A1A, modifying the traffic on Golden Beach Drive, the times that we're doing it, I think may make a very significant difference in how long it takes to get out of the town. I think it's workable and we need to give that a chance. I feel a little saddened that everybody got so aggravated and up in arms in the 11th hour of this, because we work so hard at trying to be open and transparent. We feel we are totally transparent. We work so hard at being able to notify and keep our residents posted on everything that we're doing. I will always, whether it's the south gate, the north gate, whatever it is, always err on the side of safety. The Mayor mentioned this morning that now we have close to 400 kids in Golden Beach, and they are running all over town, the north end, the south end; the south end has always been busier than the north end, because there's more here. The park is here; the Civic Center, the old Town Hall, the Wellness Center are here. I just feel that opening up a gate and not being careful before we do anything, is just asking for trouble. I'm going to always err on the side of safety. I'm pleased to hear about the call box. I agree with the Mayor; kids don't look when they're out there, and people are in a rush in the morning. I'd rather have less opened than more to make sure that everybody is safe. I think, monitoring the foot traffic on the beach is a good idea and I know that our beach residents must be thrilled about that. I've had a few people on Ocean Boulevard call me, and I think I shared it with you, Chief. Occasionally there's walkers that go up and down, especially the sidewalk on A1A and they're opening up people's mailboxes and taking their mail. I'm not sure exactly what the solution is for that but I think it's something we got to think about. The other thing. I want to talk about is there is a piece of equipment that's relatively inexpensive for the police department, if they would look into it called Life Vac. Instead of the Heimlich maneuver. It's something you put over either an adult or a child that's choking. I think it's inexpensive, and I think that it might be something we might want to consider having in the police vehicles. I had a resident call me. We have a lot of electric cars here, and someone asked if we had the ability to put in a charging station that cost a little more. But I think it charges an electric car in 45 minutes or an hour. I don't know if it's possible, but I promised them I would bring it up and share it with the rest of the group. There was a time, I ran something called the Golden Beach Youth Leadership Group and it kind of fell out of fashion for a while. With 400 kids in the town, I think it's something I'd like to start again. So in one of the newsletters coming up, I'm going to put something in about the youth group. Parents can get involved, and it's a wonderful activity for the kids. I know everyone's in a rush last meeting. I didn't get the opportunity to thank Jisel, Michael and Lissette for always helping

me out for Memorial Day or Veterans Day. Last Memorial Day was excellent. They're always there to help me, and I want to thank them. The new motorcycle. I am totally in favor of that. I missed the old ones that we hadn't been using. I'm so glad to hear we're getting another one. I think it's the one way we can get out of town, no matter how much traffic there is, or what goes on in this world. The bomb dog is great.

Vice Mayor Einstein Because it is budget time, many residents have contacted me during the year. And they said, because our town is getting so much bigger, and we're getting so much more revenue, why is our budget, or why is our millage rate not going down? If they will look at our budget, if they look how we are spending our dollars, and if they will look at what the Manager, what the Mayor, and I think what all Council people have tried to address. We have tried to be frugal with the town's dollars, and how we spend them. We try in a very, very conscientious effort to monitor the spending of our dollars, and I invite the town to come look at our budget books.

I. TOWN MANAGER REPORT

Town Manager We have been able to lower millage rate 3 times over the last 9 years. Although our revenues have increased, know that we continue to do everything to bring in additional revenues. Like the Mayor mentioned earlier, just this past year, we brought in an additional \$850,000. Over the last 17 years that I've served as your Manager, we brought in close to 38 million dollars in free grants and dollars to our community. Even though this year's budget did see additional revenues, we have put in place a self-imposed set aside to grow our fund balance. We know that our values can plateau. We know that our values can change at any minute, so know that we don't go crazy on spending. Our 1st budget hearing is scheduled for September 10th at 6 PM here in the Town Council Chambers and our final budget hearing is scheduled for September 30th at 6 PM in Council Chambers and via Zoom. I encourage all of our residents to please go online and look at our 210-page budget that goes into detail on every dollar that is spent.

I want to let the residents know that we took very seriously the concerns that were addressed in June, during the town's flooding. And over the summer we deployed over 6 additional pumps throughout the community that have been strategically placed to make sure that we keep our community nice and dry. We've improved our stormwater capabilities and our stormwater response. Know that we hear you loud and clear when we impact your home. We want to make sure that we try to minimize the impact too. You know that climate change resiliency is a top priority for us, and we'll continue to do so. And in fact, tonight there's an item on the agenda that addresses that.

As the Chief has explained, we have continued to increase our police enhancements to make sure that we keep our community being the safest in South Florida.

I'd like to thank the 30 plus residents that showed up to today's Wellness Center Workshop, where we were able to hear from our architect, Mr. Eric Dempsey, and we're going to briefly go over that tonight. Wellness Center is on track.

As the Mayor mentioned, we love the active participation in the group chats. Administration is not a part of it, nor do we desire to be. We do like to hear the feedback that we get from our residents. But here's what's important for the residents to know when information is put out there and it's not factual, it puts all of our staff in a frenzy because we need the respond right? Please be cautious in not spreading misinformation. When I get a phone call from managers from other affluent communities in South Florida like Bal Harbour and Indian Creek and they ask what's going on in your city? It scares me because that means that what's going on in our group chat is spreading like wildfire. What I don't want is for a tool that's supposed to be a great avenue for us to communicate, to now cause, "Well is Golden Beach still the premier community in which to live in?" So just be measured in how you communicate because it does spill over. For those of you who have not signed onto Building Links, which does have a chat forum and a

resource library. If you do not sign up for Building Links, you will not be able to reserve our tennis courts or our pickleball courts. because the reservations of pickleball and tennis, and the beach pavilion and North Park and South Park, and eventually the town terrace and the town chambers is all through building links. So, if you have not signed up for building links, please see our Resident Services Director, Michael Glidden, or Jisel Krepp. When we go live with the tennis and pickleball courts you will need your ID so you can fob in and fob out.

We will have a Park Ranger program initiated as part of our next year's budget. They will add park attendance to make sure that only residents of Golden Beach are using our facilities, especially at night and on the weekend. As part of our Wellness Center program we're pleased to announce that starting October 1st, you're going to see more boot camp activities to make sure that we're all getting that pre workout ready for when we build the Wellness Center. So, starting October 1st, you'll see more bootcamp activities. We're going to be opening up the town employee gym for boot camp only to our residents.

I'd like to just remind the community what the new measures that we're taking as it relates to south gate. We will be prohibiting parking on Golden Beach Drive prior to 9 AM; no garbage activity prior to 10 AM on Ocean Boulevard; and no drop off pouring of concrete.

This year is an election year for the Town Council and for our nation. Your polling place is not Civic Center. Please make sure that you go to the Sunny Isles City Hall to vote for this year's November 5th election. We have requested from the Department of Elections to please make this a permanent polling location for all elections for our residents, and we have offered to pay for that, so that our residents could just come to our facility and be actively involved in our nation's democracy. As it relates to the Town Council, our elections are held in February. The qualifying period will be December 30th through January 6th.

Mr. Mayor, your staff worked around the clock this summer to make sure that we met all of the expectations that our community have set forth. Our executive team, led by myself, your Manager, and our Assistant Town Manager, Linda Epperson, Lissette Perez, our Town Clerk, our Chief of Police, Rudy Herbello, and of course our Finance Director, Maria Camacho, really worked together to make sure that we sharpen our pencils and have a very detailed budget that we're going to be pleased to announce. And of course, all our director staff members, Lissett, Rovira, Kirk McKoy, Michael Glidden and all our staff members have worked hard.

J. TOWN MAJOR PROJECTS REPORT/UPDATE

- Wellness Center Committee Workshop Update and Presentation – see attached document

Town Manager We had an excellent workshop with over 30 residents who participated. Over the last five years, because this process started before we started the Civic Center, and when we hired Perkins and Wills to look at the space allocation for our community. We looked at how we can evolve? And then we asked our residents, would you be willing, so long as we did not increase your millage rate? Would you be willing to allow us to take on an additional 7 million dollars in debt so that we can build you a wellness center and make improvements throughout the community? As you know, as part of our reimagined Tweddle Park, after 13 different space allocation and drawings of the of the city, and the council voted, and we applied for money from the State, to make this the site for our new wellness center. As you see, Golden Beach Drive gets closed because our tot lot and our wellness center is being built above the existing Town Hall location in Golden Beach Drive. Here's the other thing, we went out to bid, and we said, we want to see who the best and brightest architects in South Florida are to give us a proposed design for our wellness center, and after 7 committee meetings and 2 Town Council meetings we ended up with Eric Dempsey, who is the architect of record for this facility. And here's what we asked our residents. We asked you, through a series of surveys and through public participation, to give us what exactly you wanted. And then we said, how can we give them

what they want? And here's where we are. So the proposed Wellness Center is an approximately 11,000 square foot facility that has 2 tiers. There's a ground level and an above ground level. Remember, we told our residents that we will be tearing down the Children's Pavilion in Tweddle Park, or now reimagined Tweddle Park, and making sure that that's incorporated into our wellness center design. And here's where we took it one step further. If you have an event, we will now have a climatized base underneath the facility with retractable walls that will allow us to climatize that area. So, if you're having a birthday party in the middle of September. You don't have to suffer the Florida climate. In addition to that, on the 1st floor, by having partitioned walls, we'll be able to have a game space or community space with TVs foosball, whatever the equipment is, so that our residents can enjoy. No, you cannot reserve both for parties. We will always maintain the integrity of having our community center open while events are going on. No, you cannot have DJs and have big parties. Yes, the Town Council will set all the rules. But the idea is that the pavilion that we have in Tweddle Park today be incorporated underneath the facility with restrooms that service the outside with an area that we can make sure facilitates the need of our parks. A tot zone, kid zone private, so they can crawl, row, bounce, and not be affected on the second floor. Which is why we decided to go and ask our residents to build a facility for you. Both mental and physical wellness is important to our community, as you can see, with Bowie joining our team. On the second floor, we're giving you 37,000 square feet of open space for fitness. We are going to go out to bid and ask fitness companies who actually sell equipment to lay out the equipment. But on the second floor along the west wall, there's an area dedicated to that private, quiet area. Let's do Zumba; let's do yoga; let's do Pilates; let's do group dynamics; let's do mommy and me, so there'll be acoustical panels that keep that whole area quiet with a beautiful balcony to overlook the park. Of course, some of our residents, and our council directed us, could they take a quick shower if they don't want to go, wake up their husbands or their wives. Going back to the gym. We have 3 bathrooms on the second floor, with their executive bathrooms with showers. The idea is that the primary focus of the design is give you an amazing wellness center that you could cancel your memberships. You come to our facility. You can only come with a fob. It will be staffed during operational hours. The Council will decide if you can come in at 3 in the morning on your own. But the idea is, can we give you a beautiful building that gives you more than what you asked for? Saunas, steam rooms, massage parlors have always been off the table. We don't have the resources, nor do we have the liability of having those spaces, but by being able to provide you a retractable system on the 1st floor to climatize that party space for our children's parties, I think that we've given you more than what you've asked for.

- Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) Update

Town Manager We added another 5 poles on the intracoastal and only missing 2 on A1A and missing 6 or 7 on Ocean Blvd. We're going to start removing a lot of the empty poles. But if you look around town, there's a bunch of new polls with cameras. The CCTV system is about, 70% in. And that's a rough number. Our CCTV new system has already allowed us to apprehend people.

- Re-Imagined Tweddle Park Update

Town Manager Because it has been a very active, rainy season, the courts aren't quite ready yet. As soon as those courts are dried, we can actually paint the actual surfaces and install the cushion court.

- Pump Station #1 Update

Town Manager as you have noticed, we have officially closed Golden Beach Drive so we can actually begin opening the trenches to install pump station number one, a 1.2 million dollar project that our residents only paid \$10,000 for, to make some improvements to Pump Station number one in Tweddle Park.

K. TOWN ATTORNEY REPORT

None

L. ORDINANCES – SECOND READING

None

M. ORDINANCES - FIRST READING

- 1. A Ordinance of the Town Council Amending the Town’s Code of Ordinances, Chapter 46 “Waterways”, Article VI, Section 46-81 to Allow for Repairs, Reconstruction or Replacement of Legal Non-Conforming Seawalls.**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE TOWN’S CODE OF ORDINANCES BY REVISING ARTICLE VI “SEAWALLS AND DOCKS”, SECTION 46-81, “EXTENSION OF SEAWALL INTO WATERWAYS”, WITHIN CHAPTER 46 “WATERWAYS”, TO ALLOW FOR THE REPAIRS, RECONSTRUCTION OR REPLACEMENT OF LEGAL NON-CONFORMING SEAWALLS WHICH ENCROACH INTO WATERWAY; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Exhibit: Agenda Report No. 1
Ordinance No. 605.24

Sponsor: Town Administration

Recommendation: Motion to Approve Ordinance No. 605.24

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>Absent</u>
Councilmember Judy Lusskin	<u>Aye</u>
Councilmember Jaime Mendal	<u>Aye</u>

The motion passed

Town Attorney A number of homes that have been originally built within the town are waterfront, that have sea walls which actually extend beyond their rear property line into the water. Those people who are coming in to replace those seawalls, we have made those people come through a variance to allow an encroachment simply to replace an existing condition. This eliminates that problem and doesn't force somebody to go through several months of a process to get a variance simply to put it back in place at the same location as seawall. So that's what this does. It cleans up the process. It makes it a little bit easier on our residents, who don't have to apply for a variance for all of which have been previously approved.

N. QUASI JUDICIAL RESOLUTIONS

None

O. CONSENT AGENDA

2. Official Minutes of the June 18, 2024 Regular 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>Absent</u>
Councilmember Judy Lusskin	<u>Aye</u>
Councilmember Jaime Mendal	<u>Aye</u>

The motion passed

3. A Resolution of the Town Council Approving a Joint Project Agreement with the State of Florida Department of Transportation for Turf and Landscape Maintenance.

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH, FLORIDA, APPROVING A JOINT PROJECT AGREEMENT WITH THE STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR TURF AND LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE; AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE AGREEMENT; AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND TOWN MANAGER TO TAKE ALL ACTION NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THE AGREEMENT; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Exhibit: Agenda Report No.3
Resolution No. 2955.24

Sponsor: Town Administration

Recommendation: Motion to Approve Resolution No. 2955.24

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>Absent</u>
Councilmember Judy Lusskin	<u>Aye</u>
Councilmember Jaime Mendal	<u>Aye</u>

The motion passed

4. A Resolution of the Town Council Authorizing the Purchase of One Ford F-150 for the Public Services Department.

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE AND EQUIPPING OF ONE FORD F-150 FOR THE PUBLIC SERVICES DEPARTMENT, AND AUTHORIZING THE USE OF GENERAL FUNDS TO PURCHASE AND EQUIP THE VEHICLE; PROVIDING FOR IMPLEMENTATION; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Exhibit: Agenda Report No.4
Resolution No. 2956.24

Sponsor: Town Administration

Recommendation: Motion to Approve Resolution No. 2956.24

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>Absent</u>
Councilmember Judy Lusskin	<u>Aye</u>
Councilmember Jaime Mendal	<u>Aye</u>

The motion passed

5. A Resolution of the Town Council Authorizing the Purchase of One Police Motorcycle Vehicle.

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN A LEASE AGREEMENT FOR ONE POLICE MOTORCYCLE; PROVIDING FOR IMPLEMENTATION; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Exhibit: Agenda Report No.5
Resolution No. 2957.24

Sponsor: Town Administration

Recommendation: Motion to Approve Resolution No. 2957.24

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>Absent</u>

Councilmember Judy Lusskin Aye
Councilmember Jaime Mendal Aye

The motion passed

6. A Resolution of the Town Council Authorizing the Purchase of a Skydio X-10 Drone for the Police Department.

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF A SKYDIO X-10 DRONE TO ASSIST POLICE IN ENHANCING THEIR SECURITY RESPONSE CAPABILITIES; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Exhibit: Agenda Report No.6
Resolution No. 2958.24

Sponsor: Town Administration

Recommendation: Motion to Approve Resolution No. 2958.24

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 Absent
Councilmember Judy Lusskin Aye
Councilmember Jaime Mendal Aye

The motion passed

7. A Resolution of the Town Council Authorizing the Purchase of a Software Program to Assist the Residential Construction Department with Permitting, Licensing and Code Enforcement Operations.

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF THE SMARTGOV SOFTWARE PROGRAM, PROVIDED BY GRANICUS, TO ASSIST THE RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION DEPARTMENT WITH PERMITTING, LICENSING AND CODE ENFORCEMENT OPERATIONS; PROVIDING FOR IMPLEMENTATION; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Exhibit: Agenda Report No.7
Resolution No. 2959.24

Sponsor: Town Administration

Recommendation: Motion to Approve Resolution No. 2959.24

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>Absent</u>
Councilmember Judy Lusskin	<u>Aye</u>
Councilmember Jaime Mendal	<u>Aye</u>

The motion passed

P. TOWN RESOLUTIONS

8. A Resolution of the Town Council Ratifying the Maximum Proposed Millage Rate for F/Y 2024-2025.

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH, FLORIDA, RATIFYING THE MAXIMUM PROPOSED MILLAGE RATE FOR F/Y 2024-2025 THAT WAS TRANSMITTED TO THE PROPERTY APPRAISER OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PURSUANT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF FLORIDA STATUTES AND THE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Exhibit: Agenda Report No. 8
Resolution No. 2960.24

Sponsor: Town Administration

Recommendation: Motion to Approve Resolution No. 2960.24

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>Absent</u>
Councilmember Judy Lusskin	<u>Aye</u>
Councilmember Jaime Mendal	<u>Aye</u>

The motion passed

Mayor Singer Hats off to everyone involved in this process. Kudos to Town Manager and finance team. Urge everyone to grab a budget report. We, as a city, are very fortunate that our values have gone up, and we're very fortunate because I can't emphasize the phenomenal job these guys did, putting the budget together, because keeping the millage rate in this environment is a true feather in your cap.

9. A Resolution of the Town Council Accepting the Benefit Proposal for Short Term/Long Term Disability Insurance and Life Insurance.

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH, FLORIDA, ACCEPTING THE BENEFIT PROPOSAL FOR SHORT TERM/LONG TERM DISABILITY INSURANCE, LIFE AND ACCIDENTAL DEATH AND DISMEMBERMENT INSURANCE SUBMITTED BY THE STANDARD INSURANCE; PROVIDING FOR CONDITIONS; PROVIDING FOR IMPLEMENTATION; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Exhibit: Agenda Report No. 9
Resolution No. 2961.24

Sponsor: Town Administration

Recommendation: Motion to Approve Resolution No. 2961.24

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>Absent</u>
Councilmember Judy Lusskin	<u>Aye</u>
Councilmember Jaime Mendal	<u>Aye</u>

The motion passed

Town Manager We're moving from Mutual of Omaha to Standard for savings and a better program.

10. A Resolution of the Town Council Awarding an Agreement for Comprehensive Health, Vision and Dental Insurance for the Employees of the Town and Eligible Dependents.

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH, FLORIDA, AWARDING AN AGREEMENT FOR THE PROVISION OF A COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN, INCLUDING A VISION PROVISION AND A DENTAL PLAN, FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH EMPLOYEES AND ELIGIBLE DEPENDENTS; PROVIDING FOR CONDITION OF AWARD; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICT; PROVIDING FOR IMPLEMENTATION; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Exhibit: Agenda Report No. 10
Resolution No. 2962.24

Sponsor: Town Administration

Recommendation: Motion to Approve Resolution No. 2962.24

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>Absent</u>
Councilmember Judy Lusskin	<u>Aye</u>
Councilmember Jaime Mendal	<u>Aye</u>

The motion passed

Town Manager As you know, health insurance costs just continue to skyrocket and balloon throughout South Florida and throughout the nation. Over the course of the summer we went out to bid, and tried to get solicitations from different brokers to make sure that we offer the best insurance offerings to our employees by providing better plan design and by trying to minimize our premiums. We did receive over 20 different plan designs. I want to recommend Ms. Nunzio to stand up. We're going to be recommending that we move all of our business to Christine, who has been working with the town for many years, because she was able to actually get us a 12% reduction to our premiums by giving us better offerings with United Healthcare. We are offering two buy ups this year. The overall savings to the town is a 12% for current premiums and the 12% that is in the budget for insurance, now goes into our reserves. So great job to Christine, and I just want to give my hats off to Elena Cheung, who's our HR Coordinator who really was working behind the scenes and looked at all the plans and get them all together and make sure that people weren't trying to pull wool over our eyes. We believe that this plan design is one of the best plan designs that we've seen, and the fact that we're able to offer premium reductions to our employees by giving them a better program with more offerings. Mayor, I recommend for approval. Open enrollment will be on September 10th.

11. A Resolution of the Town Council Increasing the Stormwater Utility Fees.

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH, FLORIDA, INCREASING THE STORMWATER UTILITY FEES EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2024; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Exhibit: Agenda Report No. 11
Resolution No. 2963.24

Sponsor: Town Administration

Recommendation: Motion to Approve Resolution No. 2963.24

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>Absent</u>
Councilmember Judy Lusskin	<u>Aye</u>

Councilmember Jaime Mendal Aye

The motion passed

Town Manager Back in 2013, we asked for the Council to increase its stormwater fee for the 1st time since 1997, and at that time the administration recommended that we have annual increases to our stormwater fee to continue to meet the needs of the operational cost of our system. After a 13-year hiatus in not increasing fees, we have no choice but to recommend a fee increase to your stormwater. As you know, your stormwater fee is collected on your water bill. We're recommending to go from \$50 to \$150 a month billed quarterly starting first quarter of 2025. But this fee is needed to help offset the stormwater utility costs, and also, at the request of our credit rating to make sure that we don't have a downgrade in our rating. So this fee is long overdue, and we have been asking the residents, and we've been informing residents about this fee for over 13 years, and I recommend approval.

12. A Resolution of the Town Council Appointing One Trustee to the Town of Golden Beach Employees Pension Board of Trustees.

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH, FLORIDA, APPOINTING ONE TRUSTEE TO THE TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH EMPLOYEES PENSION PLAN BOARD OF TRUSTEES; PROVIDING FOR TERM OF APPOINTEES; PROVIDING FOR IMPLEMENTATION; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Exhibit: Agenda Report No. 12
Resolution No. 2964.24

Sponsor: Town Administration

Recommendation: Motion to Approve Resolution No. 2964.24

A motion to approve was made by Councilmember Lusskin, seconded by Mayor Singer, 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>Absent</u>
Councilmember Judy Lusskin	<u>Aye</u>
Councilmember Jaime Mendal	<u>Present</u>

The motion passed

Mayor Singer Isaac Mendal is the appointee and I really appreciate him taking this position.

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

R. ADJOURNMENT:

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

Consensus vote 4 Ayes 0 Nays. Motion passes.

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisette Perez

Lisette Perez
Town Clerk