



**MINUTES  
SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING  
Log Cabin - 640 NE 114th Street  
Biscayne Park, FL 33161  
Thursday, January 19, 2017 at 7:00pm**

**1 Call to Order**

Mayor Tracy Truppman called the meeting to order at 7:03pm.

**2 Roll Call**

Mayor Tracy Truppman - present  
Vice Mayor David Coviello - present  
Commissioner Jenny Johnson-Sardella - present  
Commissioner Roxanna Ross - present  
Commissioner William Tudor - present

Present from staff were:

Village Manager Sharon P. Ragoonan  
Village Clerk Maria C. Camara  
Village Attorney John Hearn  
Interim Police Chief Nicholas Wollschlager

**3 Pledge of Allegiance**

**4 Presentations**

*< None >*

**5 Additions, Deletions or Withdrawals to the Agenda**

Mayor Truppman suggests that variances to be heard at the end of the meeting or at a Special Commission meeting.

There is consensus to schedule variances at a specific time certain during a regular Commission meeting.

**6 Public Comments Related to Agenda Items / Good & Welfare**

Judi Hamelburg: Have noticed a major improvement in policing. Thanks Interim Chief Wollschlager.

Harvey Bilt: Do not set a Special Election until there is a vacant seat.

Andrew Olis: On variance process and scheduling it at the end of a meeting, remember that the public may want to speak on it. May not have the effect you want if there is no interest to speak on it.

Milton Hunter: Have also seen an improvement in policing. Want to see progress on removal of double poles. On good and welfare portion, previously had been removed. All should respect it. You can also write directly to the Commission. On charter changes, don't see a need now. Still feeling the issues caused by the prior Manager.

Janey Anderson: Concur with increase in police presence. Thanks to Interim Chief Wollschlager. Agree with changing the Detective position to a regular patrol officer. More boots on the ground. On charter changes, let the people decide. On landlord permit, still concerned there has been no action. At last meeting the legislative funding requests were roads, lighting and drainage. Document provided today shows more towards stormwater mitigation. Please revisit.

Bob Anderson: Outstanding job by the police. Perhaps slow down on replacement of Chief. Take time to vet the applicants. Work towards more reserve officers. On wish list for legislature, most appropriations are with matching funds. Be careful what you are asking for. Do not deplete the CITT funds.

Chuck Ross: Nicholas Wollschlager a great choice for Interim Chief. Have also seen a difference Coffee with a Cop is being planned for early February. Proposal for charter change needs to be given time to understand the impact. This would be a shift in the dynamics. Go through a review board. Vet it with public. Take your time.

Judith Gersten: Most concerned about item 13.f regarding the log cabin fire panel. No fire alarm working in the log cabin. There are sensors missing in A/C according to the Mayor's report. Not sure if fire sprinklers are working. How did Village Manager pay for work without certificate of completion. Open since January 2016. Has been available for rent for a full year. Can't believe contractor let this go. On Village Hall, much more serious. No smoke detectors or fire alarms. This is a public building. Records are housed there. How could Village Manager have left this. If you are required in a home, how could you not do the same in a public building. Grave concern for all.

Nancy Davis: Happy to hear all the good news on the Police. But not feeling the love on Sixth Avenue, on the north end. Continue to see a lot of speeding.

Mac Kennedy: On referendum change, if you take it to the voters, insure you have the best turnout. A Special Election could feel like voter suppression. Wait on next regular election. If you do pass, make it effective for next elected Commission. Feels like a power grab. You should not benefit from this.

Dan Schneiger: On candidate forum, you were all asked your top three challenges. None of you brought up a charter amendment. Why? Let the Manager do her job. If any of you had brought it up during the election, you would not have gotten my vote.

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Mayor Truppman: Brings up the issue of waiving the fees to renew permits due to delay with driveway/swale changes.

After discussion, Commissioner Ross makes a motion that the permit renewal fees for driveway permits be waived from January 1, 2017 forward. The motion is seconded by Vice Mayor Coviello.

All in favor: Mayor Truppman, Vice Mayor Coviello, Commissioner Johnson-Sardella, Commissioner Ross and Commissioner Tudor.

Opposed: None

Motion carries: 5/0

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6.a Response to prior public comments and inquiries

Attorney Hearn confirms that the Village can set the special election without a vacancy. Vice Mayor Coviello will provide a letter with his resignation effective prior to the date of the election.

**7 Information / Updates**

**8 Consent Agenda**

**9 Public Hearing**

**10 Ordinances**

**11 Resolutions**

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*Resolution 2017-02 heard with item 13.e under New Business*

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**12 Old Business**

**13 New Business**

13.c Discussion on the hiring of Reserve Police Officers - As requested by Commission Johnson-Sardella

Commissioner Johnson-Sardella provided the background.

After discussion, Vice Mayor Coviello recommends that there s a policy to have Staff and the Administration focus on hiring reserve officers, but without setting a quota or specific timeline, and make it a priority. Let the professional Manager and the Interim Police Chief do their work. There is a consensus of the entire Commission.

13.d Discussion on Police Department: Shift in policy to address overtime expenditures, proactive policing, increasing enforcement and visibility - As requested by Mayor Truppman

Mayor Truppman provided the background. Suggests the conversion of the budgeted Detective position to a full-time Police Officer which would provide a \$10,000 savings in salary.

There is Commission consensus that the Detective position be filled by a patrol officer.

13.g Discussion on the policy for setting job requirements for Chief of Police - As requested by Mayor Truppman

Mayor Truppman provided the background. Suggests to slow down the hiring and let the Interim Chief work with the Manager to create stability.

After discussion, there is consensus to move the item to the February 8th meeting to allow the Manager to discuss further with the Interim Chief.

13.f Discussion on Log Cabin fire suppression and detection/alarm system status and fire alarm system in Village Hall - as requested by Mayor Truppman

Mayor Truppman provided the background.

Speaking on the item were Sal Annese, Building Official for the Village of Biscayne Park, and Hector Gonzalez, representative from McKenzie Construction.

Mr. Annese will continue to work with the architects and contractors of both the Village Hall and Log Cabin. The item is deferred to the February 8th meeting.

13.e Discussion on amendments to the Charter corresponding with special election timelines - As requested by Mayor Truppman

Mayor Truppman provided the background. Has reconsidered and will not go forward with this item today. Instead will hold Community Forums to set the vision for the Village for the next five years, and will include the discussion of the structure of government.

11.a **Resolution 2017-02**

A RESOLUTION OF THE VILLAGE COMMISSION OF THE VILLAGE OF BISCAYNE PARK, FLORIDA **CALLING A SPECIAL ELECTION IN THE VILLAGE TO BE HELD ON MARCH 28, 2017**, FOR THE PURPOSE OF SUBMITTING TO QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE VILLAGE OF BISCAYNE PARK THE CANDIDATES TO FILL THE VACANCY CREATED BY THE RESIGNATION OF DAVID COVIELLO; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

Mayor Truppman read the title.

Commissioner Ross makes a motion to approve Resolution 2017-02 and it is seconded by Vice Mayor Coviello.

All in favor: Mayor Truppman, Vice Mayor Coviello, Commissioner Johnson-Sardella, Commissioner Ross and Commissioner Tudor.

Opposed: None

Motion carries: 5/0

**14 Request for placement of items on next meeting agenda.**

No items were added.

**15 Reports**

15.a Village Manager:

15.a.1 Goal setting and action plan - Manager will defer to the February 8th meeting.

15.a.4 Construction site guidelines - Manager will defer to the February 8th meeting.

Review of Local Funding Initiative Request draft submitted by Manager Ragoonan:

After discussion, there is consensus to remove "stormwater" and to concentrate on roads, lighting and drainage. On CCTV item, consensus to move forward as is.

Manager Ragoonan provided an update on the PAMM (Perez Art Museum Miami) project.

Manager Ragoonan provided an update on the Landlord inspection process. Recommends that for 2016, the Village collect the landlord permit fee only, and for 2017, proceed with collecting the landlord permit fee and inspection fee. There is Commission consensus to proceed as recommended.

15.b Village Attorney:

Attorney Hearn provided that there is a general consensus from the State representatives that no money is available this year. There is much discussion taking place for many cities on sober homes.

**16 Announcements**

Saturday, January 21st - Saturday Special Trash/Yard Debris Pick Up  
Saturday, February 4th - Arts & Artisan Show/Farmer's Market at 3:00pm  
Monday, February 6th - Planning & Zoning Board at 6:30pm

The next regular Commission meeting is Wednesday, February 8th at 7:00pm.

**17 Adjournment**

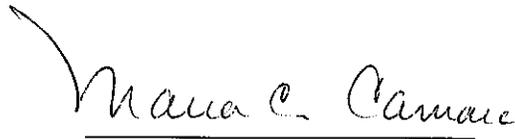
The meeting was adjourned at 10:04pm.

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Commission approved on 02/08/2017.

Attest:

  
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Tracy Truppman, Mayor

  
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Maria Camara, Village Clerk