

**TOWN OF INTERLACHEN
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, APRIL 8, 2025 - 6:00 P.M.
DICKERMAN BUILDING**

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Beverly Bakker called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Council Members present were Chairperson Beverly Bakker, Vice-Chairperson Joni Conner, Carolyn Bennett, Carolyn Meadows, and David Yonts. Mayor Hanes and Attorney George Young were present also.

COUNCIL CHAIRPERSON – BEVERLY BAKKER

Chairperson Bakker stated that the clerk and herself gave five scouts a tour and a little history on the pictures in the Council Chambers, the Caboose, the Old Hotel, Interlachen Hall and the old Brush Store.

Mayor Hanes read a proclamation designating the week of April 13, 2025 through April 19, 2025 as “National Public Safety Telecommunications Week” and one designating the month of April as “Water Conservation Month.”

COUNCIL DISCUSSION:

Discussion and Consideration of the Regular Appointment of Officer Ethen McKellar.

Council Member Conner moved to accept the regular appointment of Officer Ethen McKellar. Council Member Meadows seconded. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote of the Council.

Discussion and Consideration of a Fine Reduction for 106 Tropic Avenue.

The Clerk explained that the fines accrued so far amount to \$14,025.00. The total cost incurred by the Town amounts to \$1,095.00. She stated that the property is in compliance. The owner’s brother said he would remove the debris that was left on the right-of-way.

Council Member Conner stated that the salary of staff for the hours spent on codes violations should be included in the fines. The Council will address this issue at a later date.

Council Member Meadows moved to reduce the fine to \$1,095.00. Council Member Bennett seconded. The motion and second were amended to include that the fine must be paid within sixty (60) days. The amended motion passed by a unanimous voice vote of the Council.

Discussion and Consideration of a Settlement Agreement Extension for 201 Commonwealth Avenue.

The owner stated that the foundation work took longer than expected and the roof should be completed within the week. He was requesting an extension in order to replace the windows, which will have to be made by special order. He expects to have the outside completed by June 30, 2025.

Council Member Bennett moved to grant the settlement agreement extension for 201 Commonwealth Avenue until June 30, 2025. Council Member Yonts seconded. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote of the Council.

Discussion and Consideration of a Request to use the Town’s Banner Board in Jenkins Park.

Leo Granger stated that the Town Seal it says, “PFC Jenkins Never Forgotten,” and requested permission to use the town’s banner board in Jenkins Park to advertise the “Annual Scholarship Banquet” honoring him, and other veterans.

Council Member Yonts moved to allow Mr. Granger to put the banner on the Town’s banner board. Council Member Bennett seconded. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote of the Council.

Discussion and Consideration of Approval of the Updated Sign Design and Permission to go out for Bids.

Council Member Conner moved to approve the updated sign and to go out for bids. Council Member Meadows seconded. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote of the Council.

CONSENT AGENDA :

The consent agenda was approved by unanimous general consent.

MAYOR COMMENTS:

Mayor Hanes stated that he was appreciative of the Council’s decision that “Military trumps everything” and that they recognized the 911 dispatchers and go Gators!

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Council Member Bennett stated that Jean Russell sent her regards and was thankful for the council granting Mr. Granger’s request regarding the banner and she is thrilled that the old Brush Store is being restored.

Council Member Conner stated that the 3rd Annual Chili Cook-off was a success. There were fourteen (14) participants and thirty (30) donors. Over two hundred (200) hot dogs were given away. She thanked the council members for manning the bounce house and the Richard Glover and Buck Griffis for their help.

Council Member Meadows stated that over a year ago the Council decided to participate more in the Florida League of Cities meetings. She said she really enjoyed them, and they are informative.

Council Member Yonts stated that he was glad that the council was on board with the veterans.

DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS:

Town Clerk Joni Payne stated that the next Florida League of Cities meeting is next Thursday, and she won’t be able to attend due to a Planning Commission meeting. The mayor will attend though.

Chief Wilburn stated that he had some old radios that need to be disposed of. He will put it on next month’s agenda to Surplus them.

Maintenance Supervisor Richard Glover stated that the tanks at the Grassy Lake and Strickland water plants have been painted and the dog waste stations have been installed. The supplies for the pickleball court haven’t arrived yet.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Mike Briseno, at 110 Tropic Avenue complained that since the road was paved the water run off was rusting his fence posts. He was advised to fill out a request to get on the May agenda.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00pm.