

**TOWN OF INTERLACHEN
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, AUGUST 8, 2023 - 6:00 P.M.
DICKERMAN BUILDING**

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Carolyn Bennett called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

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

COUNCIL CHAIRPERSON – CAROLYN BENNETT

Chairperson Bennett welcomed everyone and stated that Jean Russell sends her regards. She commented that Jenkins Park looks well-manicured, but the only thing missing is edging and she appreciates the time and effort put into it.

Chief Gary Warren from Interlachen Volunteer Fire Department Station 4 presented the Town Council with a plaque in appreciation of their continued support.

Commissioner Larry Harvey apologized for going over budget on the Independence Day Celebration and stated that the fireworks were the best the Town has ever had.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION:

Discussion and Consideration of a Presentation on the “30 by30” Financial Literacy Campaign.

Fe Orbigoso, from the 30 by 30 Financial Literacy Campaign stated that the purpose of their organization is to provide financial education to individuals and families so they can get out of debt, pay for their children’s college, plan for retirement and become financially secure. Classes will be held at the Library on Saturdays beginning August 12, 2023 through September 23, 2023 from 10am to 12:30pm.

Discussion and Consideration of a Request From J.R.O.T.C. for Street Closure.

Interlachen Jr/Sr High School J.R.O.T.C. representatives, Captain Korey Brown, Cadets Logan Sanders, and Lyle Landry announced that they will be hosting a Raider Challenge event on September 23, 202. It has been fourteen (14) years since the school hosted this event. They are expecting three hundred (300) people to attend. A 3.2-mile run will start at 7:45am and begin at the school, cross SR 20 to Boyleston Street, then to Commonwealth Avenue, then head east on SR 20, with traffic re-direction to the inside lane for east bound traffic. They requested Police and Town Council support.

They were advised that the traffic lanes on SR 20 could not be closed but the Town Council was in support of the event. The Police Department will be available for traffic control.

Discussion and Consideration of the Resignation of Laura Hafner from the Better Place Plan Committee.

Council Member Meadows moved to accept the resignation of Laura Hafner from the Better Place Plan Committee, with thanks for her service. Council Member Yonts seconded. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote of the Council.

Discussion and Consideration of the Appointment of Tony Minotti to the Better Place Plan Committee.

Council Member Bakker moved to approve the appointment of Tony Minotti to the Better Place Plan Committee. Council Member Conner seconded. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote of the Council.

Discussion and Consideration of Rock Park Parcel.

The Clerk explained that this parcel was sold to Robert & Melissa Marshall at a Town surplus sale in January and upon research she found that the Town doesn't have a clear title.

Attorney Young stated that he believes the developer's original intent was for the Town to have the property, but a deed was never acquired. He advised the Council that he could obtain a quiet title declaring that the Town owns the property.

Council Member Conner moved to allow Attorney Young to proceed with the quiet title. Council Member Bakker seconded. The motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote of the Council.

Discussion and Consideration of Cemetery Fence Quote.

Maintenance Supervisor Richard Glover asked that this item be tabled.

Discussion and Consideration of Cemetery Investment.

The Clerk advised the Council that the Cemetery Fund currently has three (3) CD's. According to Ordinance 2019-2 funds in excess of \$ 6,000.00 have to be invested. She presented to the Council Community State Bank's CD and savings rates.

The consensus of the Council was to keep \$100,000.00 in the Cemetery Fund for fencing and invest \$200,000.00. The Clerk will explore investment options with other banks and present them at the September meeting.

Discussion and Consideration of Jenkins Park Lighting.

Council Member Yonts moved to enter into agreement with Florida Power & Light for the lighting in Jenkins Park. Council Member Meadows seconded. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote of the Council.

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution 2023-3; Adopting a Purchasing Policy

Resolution 2023-3 was read by title only.

Council Member Bakker moved to approve Resolution 2023-3. Council Member Conner seconded. The motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote of the Council.

Resolution 2023-4; Criteria for the Better Place Plan Committee.

Resolution 2023-4 was read by title only.

Council Member Conner moved to approve Resolution 2023-4. Council Member Meadows seconded. The motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote of the Council.

ORDINANCES:

Ordinance 2023-4; Repealing, Re-enacting, Retaining and Sunsetting Certain Ordinances.

Ordinance 2023-4 was read by title only.

Council Member Bakker moved to approve Ordinance 2023-4. Council Member Meadows seconded. The motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote of the Council.

CONSENT AGENDA:

The consent agenda was approved by unanimous general consent.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Council Member Meadows said she was proud of their July 4th float.

Council Member Yonts said the soup kitchen gave out ninety-four (94) school back packs.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS:

Mayor Larsen had no comments.

DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS:

Town Clerk, Joni Payne stated the following: (1) the Police radios that were budgeted this year will not be here until the end of September so she would like to carry that \$53,000.00 budget item over to the 2023/2024 budget. (2) The deed from F.D.O.T for the property on corner and along the section of SR 20 has been received and a survey has been ordered. (3) She attended a meeting with the School Board regarding the interlocal agreement. They are revising it and once they are finished, she will ask the Council for a workshop to discuss it.

Maintenance Supervisor Richard Glover stated that the Tremont water plant is back in service, and that he was advised by F.D.O.T. that SR 20 should be completed by the end of August.

CITIZEN COMMENTS:

There were no public comments.

C.E.O., Mary Ratliff stated that there are three (3) current cases. There are two cases where fines have started accruing. The Brush Store goes before the Magistrate in September.

ATTORNEY COMMENTS:

Attorney Young stated that the final judgement hearing papers have been filed on 104 Dickens. Someone is interested in buying the property, however the fines and legal fees at this time total \$29,118.50 and the buyer will probably request a fine reduction. In the meantime, he is moving forward with the foreclosure and the current owners can't sell it until all fines and liens are satisfied.

The nuisance abatement has been filed on 107 Dickens Street and it should move forward a little faster.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 7:39pm.