

MINUTES OF TOWN OF PACIFIC SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, March 21, 2023 5:00 PM Held at the Pacific Town Hall

Call to Order: The Special Town Board meeting was called to order by Chairman Devine at 5:04 p.m.

Roll Call: Chairman Devine, Supervisors Cawley, Kayartz, Kershaw, and Pate were present.

Others Present: Clerk Gustafson, Town Attorney John Miller, Town Engineer Robert Roth were also present. Other attendees were asked to sign in and those sign-in sheets are on file in the Clerk's office.

Verification of Public Notice: Clerk verified the meeting invitation was mailed on January 11th and the official meeting notice was given on March 16th.

Town Agenda: Motion by Kayartz/Kershaw to approve the agenda as posted. Motion carried by call of roll; Pate opposed. Supervisor Pate made a motion to revise the agenda and the motion failed for lack of a second.

Lakeside Park Public Information Meeting: Town Chair Devine explained the reason for the meeting. Town Engineer Roth gave a comprehensive explanation of the progress with the engineering plans for the Lakeside Park Subdivision Improvement Plan. Engineer Roth stated that the project has received WDNR approval based on the completed plans. This approval is conditional upon habitat preservation and endangered species protection. Engineer Roth discussed the meetings that he held with various residents in key locations along the proposed construction route and his communications with the Citizen Leadership Committee regarding the best way to deal with the water drainage in the area. The suggestions for an alternate drainage plan expressed by an outside engineering professional were determined to be more costly and/or not feasible for various reasons.

Recess: Motion by Kershaw/Cawley to recess at 6:04 p.m. to conduct a previously scheduled public hearing not related to Lakeside Park Subdivision. All in favor by call of roll.

Reconvene: Motion by Kayartz/Kershaw to reconvene at 6:51 p.m. All in favor by call of roll. The public information meeting continued with further discussion including details regarding the substandard roads, turning radius issues, drainage issues and right-of-way impacts. Each exhibit provided by Roth Professional Solutions was shown and explained. Chair Devine discussed the process moving forward and the next steps to be taken. There was a great deal of discussion and questions asked by the participants. The main focus of the public in attendance was their concerns on how the project will be funded. Chair Devine talked about the various options available for funding an infrastructure project of this nature which included either a portion of the costs or the full costs to come from special assessments to the properties that benefit from the project. Town financing was also mentioned. Town Engineer Roth briefly explained the methods of special assessments: front foot assessment – assessment to the properties abutting on an improvement, area-based assessment – based upon the area of a property to be assessed compared with the total area served by the improvement, or a combination of area and front foot assessments. An alternative scaled down plan was verbally shared by Supervisor Pate, but the Town Engineer could not respond without seeing the details. Supervisor Pate said his plan did not include right-of-way acquisition, drainage provisions including curb, and easements. It is unclear if his plan would address legal issues existing or proposed. Roth explained that, with all factors considered, the time to do the entire project is now, and to do the project completely to minimize the Town's liabilities. It was mentioned that the Town Board will most likely have a discussion on funding the project at a properly noticed meeting in the near future.

Adjourn: Motion by Kershaw/Cawley to adjourn at 8:13 p.m. All in favor by call of roll.

Marlo Gustafson, WCMC
Town Clerk