

**MINUTES  
VILLAGE OF TEQUESTA**

**WORKSHOP**



**JUNE 1, 2015**

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**Call to Order and Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. A roll call was taken by Village Clerk Lori McWilliams. Present were: Mayor Abby Brennan, Vice Mayor Vince Arena, Council Member Steve Okun, Council Member Tom Paterno and Council Member Frank D'Ambra.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**MOTION:** *Council Member D'Ambra moved approval of the agenda; seconded by Council Member Okun; motion carried unanimously 5-0.*

**1. FY 2014/2015 Budget Overview Status**

Manager Couzzo noted that budget revenues and expenditures were on track with projections in cost savings to be approximately \$93,000. He noted that building revenues were down but, believed they would balance out once upcoming projects progressed.

**2. Discuss Utilization of 14/15 Budget Cost Savings Account to Hire Public Works Supervisor**

Manager Couzzo summarized the supervisory position, its responsibilities, the Village's current needs, and that the salary would come out of costs savings.

Council discussed the position costs between using a full time person (or internal staff) versus a contracted employee.

**3. Review FY 2015/2016 Budget**

Manager Couzzo noted that property valuations had increased and could bring in approximately \$390,000 in revenues. He noted that department heads had submitted their budgets, explained figures associated with proposed budgetary needs along with the effects from the projected tax raise.

Council discussed options associated with the budget and tax figures, capital improvements, payroll increases, benefits, union negotiations, and saving options such as eliminating unnecessary purchasing.

Tim English, Building Department Director/Building Official advised that changes with property renovations within the Village had increased appraisal values. Council Member Paterno commented on code and park improvements and offered a handout regarding the mutual aid offered to Martin County by Tequesta Fire Rescue.

**4. Discuss Hiring of Military-To-Main-Street Personnel**

Police Chief Elg reported that three persons remained in the department from the Military-To-Main-Street (MTMS) program, and noted the staffing request presented in his budgetary plan were needs, not wants. Council Member Paterno had voiced his opinion that the Village should not have spent money on MTMS, and suggested removing the program, and returning one officer - Max Lally back to the department. Chief Elg explained that the officer was with U.S. Immigration and Customs (ICE) and well placed for Tequesta's involvement with ICE. Mayor Brennan questioned safety in the Village.

**5. Discuss Resolution 19-15, Adopting a Revised Permit Fee Schedule as Provided by Sec. 14-152 of the Village Code of Ordinances**

Tim English, Building Department Director/Building Official offered highlights of revisions made to offer clarity to the permit fee schedule.

**6. Discuss Interlocal Agreement between Jupiter Inlet Colony, the Loxahatchee River Environmental Control District (LRECD) and the Village of Tequesta for Joint Participation and Project Funding of the Jupiter Inlet Colony Neighborhood Rehabilitation**

Mr. Sam Heady, Deputy Director, Utilities explained that the amendment to the agreement did not affect Tequesta.

**7. Discuss Concerns with Safety on the Sandbar**

This item was moved to a future time.

**8. Standardization Update**

Mrs. Lori McWilliams, Village Clerk, explained the standardization project and its present progress. She asked for clarity on Council's desires and offered several suggestions. Council offered preferences and debated the discussion from April 27<sup>th</sup> regarding the addition and use of the words Naturally Beautiful to stationary. They agreed not to use the two words.

Council agreed that the Village of Tequesta (already bolded) could be a bit larger, and that Garamond was the best choice for the standardized font selection.

**9. Discuss Village Council Salary Increases**

Council Member D'Ambra felt that Council salaries had not been adjusted in 20 years, and suggested an increase from \$500.00 to \$650.00 per month with a two percent escalator. Council Member Paterno felt a Charter review would be appropriate for a percentage increase. Attorney Davis explained that the Charter now offered leverage to make changes by ordinance, and that Charter changes must be done by referendum. Council Member

Okun disagreed with any differentiation between Mayor and Council pay.

**10. Discussion on Meeting with Martin County Regarding Traffic on Island Way and the Tequesta Drive Bridge**

Council Member Paterno offered his understanding regarding Martin County plans and progress regarding traffic control surrounding the Tequesta area. Manager Couzzo offered to attend Martin County's upcoming meeting regarding the subject and bring details back to Council.

Council discussed Tequesta's options and guidelines if Tequesta's Fire Department and/or Police were to be responsible for the Turtle Creek residents and/or maintenance of the adjoining roads. They also recalled studies which had shown 40% of Tequesta Drive Bridge traffic was from Turtle Creek residents.

*Council Member Okun left the meeting at 9:07*

**ADJOURNMENT:** *Council Member Paterno moved to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Council Member D'Ambra. The motion to adjourn carried unanimously 4-0; therefore, the meeting was adjourned at 9:08 p.m.*

Respectfully submitted,

Lori McWilliams, MMC  
Village Clerk

Note: These summary minutes are prepared in compliance with 286.011 F.S. and are not verbatim transcripts of the meeting. A verbatim audio record is available from the Office of the Village Clerk. All referenced attachments are on file in the Village Clerk's office.