



**VILLAGE OF INDIANTOWN  
REGULAR VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
September 12, 2024  
6:30 PM**

**15516 SW Osceola Street, Suite C  
Indiantown, FL 34956**

**CALL TO ORDER:** 6:32 p.m.

**ROLL CALL:** LaRhonda McBride, Village Clerk

**PRESENT:** Mayor Carmine Dipaolo, Vice Mayor Angelina Perez, Council Member Susan Gibbs Thomas, Council Member Vernestine Williams-Palmer, and Council Member Phyllis Waters Brown. *Staff:* Village Manager Taryn Kryzda, Village Attorney Wade C. Vose, Parks & Recreation Director Deborah Resos, Parks & Recreation Supervisor Brian Green, Public Works & Utilities Director Patrick Nolan, Finance Director Michael Florio, Village Clerk LaRhonda McBride, and Administrative Assistant Renae Cherry.

**INVOCATION:** LaRhonda McBride

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Mayor Gibbs Thomas led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, PULLED ITEMS OR OTHER MODIFICATIONS:**

Village Clerk LaRhonda McBride stated that Staff was requesting Item #8 be pulled from the Agenda.

**PROCLAMATIONS, AWARDS AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:**

1. Proclamation for Constitution Week

Village Clerk McBride read the proclamation in honor of Constitution Week.

Deputy Adams with the Martin County Sheriff's Office accepted the proclamation.

2. Proclamation for Hunger Action Month

Village Clerk McBride read the proclamation in honor of Hunger Action Month.

A representative from the Treasure Coast Food Bank accepted the proclamation.

3. Proclamation for Hispanic Heritage Month

Village Clerk McBride read the proclamation in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month.

Vice Mayor Angelina Perez accepted the proclamation on behalf of Officer Camacho.

4. Proclamation for Celebrate Freedom Week

Village Clerk McBride read the proclamation in honor of Celebrate Freedom Week.

Indiantown Middle School teacher Miriam Hernandez accepted the proclamation.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Jackie Clarke congratulated Council Member Gibbs Thomas on her retirement and spoke regarding a workshop in Booker Park.

Daryl Holmes congratulated the new Council Members and stated that the Council has not replied to his Freedom of Information Act requests.

Linda Nycum congratulated the new Council Members and spoke regarding collaboration and progress in the Village.

**COMMENTS BY VILLAGE COUNCIL MEMBERS:**

Council Member Brown thanked former Council Member Janet Hernández for her service to the community. She stated that she is committed to helping the Council fulfill its goals and invited members of the public to participate in every project the Council is involved in. She thanked everyone for their votes.

Council Member Palmer thanked all for attending. She stated that the Village can only accomplish its goals with the support and involvement of its residents and urged all to work together.

Council Member Gibbs Thomas stated that it is good to see new faces on the Council and that she looks forward to whatever comes next following her retirement on October 31, 2024.

Vice Mayor Perez congratulated the newly elected Council Members and thanked Council Member Gibbs Thomas for her service to the Village. She requested an update on the Community

Trust Fund grant applications.

Village Manager Kryzda stated that there would be an update brought before the Council on October 10, 2024.

Mayor Dipaolo welcomed everyone to the meeting and congratulated the newly elected Council Members.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Village Manager Kryzda stated that the Indiantown Community Trust Fund committee had reviewed five applications and would bring its recommendations before the Council on October 10, 2024.

**COMMENTS BY VILLAGE MANAGER:**

Village Manager Kryzda had no comments.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

**Motion was made to approve the Agenda, as amended as follows, by Council Member Gibbs Thomas:**

- **Pull Item #8**

**Motion was duly seconded by Council Member Palmer and approved unanimously.**

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

**Motion was made to approve the Consent Agenda by Council Member Palmer. Motion was duly seconded by Council Member Brown and approved unanimously.**

5. Approval of the Minutes of the Council Meeting of August 22, 2024

**REGULAR AGENDA:**

6. Selection of Mayor and Vice Mayor for 2024-2025, Pursuant to Section 4(3)(a) & (b) of the Village Charter.

Village Attorney Vose opened nominations for the office of Mayor for 2024-2025.

Vice Mayor Perez nominated Carmine Dipaolo.

**Motion was made to name Council Member Dipaolo as Mayor for 2024-2025 by Council Member Gibbs Thomas. Motion was duly seconded by Council Member Palmer and approved unanimously.**

Council Member Gibbs Thomas spoke in support of Mayor Dipaolo's

appointment.

Village Attorney Vose opened nominations for the office of Vice Mayor for 2024-2025.

Council Member Gibbs Thomas nominated Angelina Perez.

**Motion was made to name Council Member Perez as Vice Mayor for 2024-2025 by Council Member Palmer. Motion was duly seconded by Council Member Brown and approved unanimously.**

Mayor Dipaolo thanked Council Member Gibbs Thomas for her service on the Village Council and spoke regarding her accomplishments during her tenure.

7. Reorganization of Council Committee Appointments

Council Member Gibbs Thomas suggested waiting to determine committee appointments until after her retirement in order to allow whoever takes her Council seat to serve on a committee.

Consensus was reached to accept Council Member Gibbs Thomas's suggestion.

8. Youth Sports Fact-Finding Committee Report

*(Clerk's note: This item was pulled under Additions, Deletions, Pulled Items, or Other Modifications.)*

9. Authorization to Schedule a Public Hearing for the Adoption of a Resolution for Uniform Method of Collecting Non-Ad Valorem Assessments

Village Attorney Vose provided an overview of the item.

Council Member Gibbs Thomas asked whether a specific plan relating to this item was in progress.

Village Attorney Vose stated that there was no current plan in progress and that this item would merely cover the Village's bases.

**Motion was made to approve the authorization to schedule a public hearing by Council Member Palmer. Motion was duly seconded by Council Member Gibbs Thomas and approved unanimously.**

10. Approval of Contract for Construction Services regarding 12" Watermain Looping Project and 8" Force Main Extension on West Farm Road and SR 710 with CK Contractors in the Amount of \$4,092,976.70.

Public Works & Utilities Director Nolan provided an overview of the item.

Mayor Dipaolo asked about the timeline for the project and whether there would be an impact on traffic.

Robert Burns with CK Contractors advised that the project was expected to take 6 months and that there would be little impact on traffic.

Council Member Gibbs Thomas asked where CK Contractors is based.

Mr. Burns replied that the company is based in West Palm Beach, Florida.

Village Manager Kryzda stated that this project is essential.

**Motion was made to approve the contract with CK Contractors in the amount of \$4,092,976.70 by Council Member Gibbs Thomas. Motion was duly seconded by Council Member Palmer and approved unanimously.**

11. Approval of Contract Amendment with Empire Pipe & Supply Company to purchase Automated Meter Reading (AMR) Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) Water Meters and Installation Services for Water Utilities Department.

Public Works & Utilities Director Nolan provided an overview of the item.

Discussion ensued regarding the project's progress and online security against potential hackers.

Jackie Clarke inquired about the project timeline.

Public Works & Utilities Director Nolan advised that all meters had been installed and were awaiting software, with a projected completion date in January or February of 2025. He stated that Empire Pipe & Supply Company had been great to work with and had completed the job more quickly than expected or planned.

**Motion was made to approve the contract amendment with Empire Pipe & Supply Company by Council Member Palmer. Motion was duly seconded by Council Member Brown and approved unanimously.**

12. **RESOLUTION NO. 010-2024**: A RESOLUTION OF THE VILLAGE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF INDIANTOWN, FLORIDA, ESTABLISHING A POOLED CASH ACCOUNT FOR VILLAGE FINANCIAL OPERATIONS; DESIGNATING SOUTHSTATE BANK, N.A.,

AS A DEPOSITORY FOR PUBLIC FUNDS; AUTHORIZING SIGNATORIES; APPROVING AGREEMENTS; AND PROVIDING FOR FINDINGS, CONFLICTS, SEVERABILITY, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Finance Director Florio provided an overview of the item.

Discussion ensued regarding whether audits would reveal potential irregularities and whether Staff was satisfied with the services provided by Southstate Bank.

Janet Hernández spoke in opposition to pooling the accounts.

Finance Director Florio explained that it is the industry standard to pool accounts and that doing so would improve oversight and accountability, reduce the potential for errors, and provide greater efficiency.

Karen Onsager spoke in support of pooling the accounts.

Village Manager Kryzda assured the public that Staff only brings items before the Council that will increase transparency.

**Motion was made to approve Resolution No. 010-2024 by Council Member Gibbs Thomas. Motion was duly seconded by Council Member Palmer and approved unanimously.**

**FIRST READING ORDINANCES:** None

**SECOND READING ORDINANCES:** None

**DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

13. Parks Projects Priority List to Apply for Grants

Parks & Recreation Director Resos provided an overview of the item. She advised that the Village could apply for two grants, each totaling \$200,000, during the upcoming grant application period from September 16–30, 2024. She requested input from the Council regarding which projects should take priority.

Council Member Gibbs Thomas asked which playgrounds need to be replaced and whether the replacement would include shade sails.

Parks & Recreation Director Resos advised that all of the Village’s playgrounds need to be replaced, including the installation of shade sails, but that she would start with Booker Park. She stated that she had received a quote for \$282,000 to replace the playground in Booker Park; and while she had not yet received official quotes for Post Family Park and Big Mound Park, she estimated they

would cost approximately \$300,000 to \$350,000 including shade sails.

Mayor Dipaolo asked which park is most utilized.

Parks & Recreation Director Resos stated that Big Mound Park is the most used because of the athletic fields but that renovation of these fields would total approximately \$1 million. She advised that she would seek additional grants to fund these renovations, but that for the current grants, the Council would need to select projects estimated in the range of \$200,000 to \$300,000. She stated that the skate park is a candidate, estimated to cost \$125,000 for the next phase of that project.

Mayor Dipaolo stated that Big Mound should take priority if it is the most used.

Council Member Palmer supported prioritizing Booker Park because it is attainable and asked what Parks & Recreation Director Resos envisioned those improvements to be.

Parks & Recreation Director Resos stated that she envisioned a larger playground structure, shade sails, and a poured-in-place surface.

Council Member Brown inquired about the timeline for each park renovation.

Parks & Recreation Director Resos stated that her office expected renovation to take 12 to 18 months per park, and that the plans have already been drafted, so the work could commence upon approval from the Council and hiring of contractors.

Vice Mayor Perez stated that she prioritized field renovations at Big Mound Park and that she rarely sees anyone using the skate park.

Parks & Recreation Director Resos assured the Council that the skate park is used by children in the community.

Council Member Gibbs Thomas concurred that improving Booker Park and the skate park would be attainable and impactful.

Mayor Dipaolo argued that Big Mound Park should be prioritized because it has the most liability as the most frequently used. He stated that the Council had been discussing acquiring property around Booker Park and renovating the park itself and therefore he did not support immediate improvements. He suggested using the grants to finish the skate park and replace the equipment at Big Mound Park.

Council Member Gibbs Thomas spoke in support of funding the proposed

improvements to the skate park and Booker Park.

Council Members Palmer and Brown also supported funding the proposed improvements to Booker Park.

Maria Aguirre spoke in support of funding the proposed improvements to the skate park and Booker Park.

Laura Hernández, Carolyn Parker, and Janet Hernández spoke in support of funding the proposed improvements to Booker Park.

Consensus was reached to direct Staff to apply to grants for the skate park and Booker Park.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Vice Mayor Perez announced that the Treasure Coast Food Bank would hold a Mobile Food Drive on Thursday, September 19, 2024, at 8:00 a.m. in Timer Powers Park. She also announced that the next Park-It Market would be on September 27, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. in Big Mound Park.


**NEXT REGULAR MEETING:** September 26, 2024

**ADJOURNMENT:** 8:07 p.m.

**ATTEST:**

  
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LaRhonda McBride  
Village Clerk

**VILLAGE OF INDIANTOWN, FLORIDA**

  
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Carmine Dipaolo,  
Mayor

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

