

**FINAL MINUTES AND AGENDA
TOWN OF JUPITER
TOWN COUNCIL WORKSHOP
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
TUESDAY, APRIL 26, 2022**

Mayor Kuretski called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

Roll Call: Mayor Jim Kuretski; Vice-Mayor Ron Delaney; Councilor Cameron May; Councilor Cheryl Schneider; Councilor Malise Sundstrom; Interim Town Manager Frank Kitzerow; Town Attorney Thomas J. Baird and Town Clerk Laura Cahill.

1. Discussion of Draft 2022/2023 Strategic Plan.

Mayor Kuretski stated Council would hear an overview of the Strategic Plan before taking Citizen Comments so the public would have a better understanding of what would be discussed.

Ms. Kate Moretto, Senior Director, stated Council would be prioritizing initiatives from the January 18, 2022 Strategic Workshop; finalizing input prior to the creation of the upcoming budget; incorporating any investments which would align with the Strategic Initiatives; reviewing the current progress; and evaluating and discussing prioritization of the 2022/2023 plan.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Ms. MB Hague, speaking on behalf of the Jupiter Inlet Foundation, stated the importance of protecting marine life and estuaries. She said restoring seagrass, oyster beds and marine life could be accomplished by removing derelict vessels and educating residents and visitors. She acknowledged the Stormwater Department for their commitment to preventing water runoff.

Mayor Kuretski asked Mr. David Brown to give an overview of the Loxahatchee River Preservation Initiative.

Mr. David Brown, Director of Utilities, stated the Committee still existed but legislative funding had become minimal.

Mayor Kuretski stated the Committee accomplishment was aligning governmental entities to share their water resources and prioritize projects.

Mr. Brown stated the Committee served as a template for the State of Florida; it noted accomplishments; prioritized items on a local level; and resulted in tangible projects being completed.

Ms. Moretto asked if Council had any questions regarding any of the existing Strategic Initiatives.

1. Discussion of Draft 2022/2023 Strategic Plan.

Councilor May stated on the Business Community and promote local music and arts, there was an error showing he marked as zero but he wanted it noted he had marked both as a five.

Councilor Delaney stated he had found an error on his Manage Growth threshold and noted it should be a five instead of a zero.

Ms. Moretto said she had provided Council a summary of Council's ranking for each item. She reviewed the ranking by noting there were 37 initiatives supported by 73 action plans and using the average score of four or more, it yielded 24 initiatives supported by 49 action plans. She explained Council would determine which ones would remain and if any needed to be adjusted.

Ms. Moretto discussed Organizational Excellence which included a new Town Hall.

Councilor Sundstrom suggested department updates be included in the Town Manager Report.

Councilor Schneider stated she agreed and would like to know about the large projects going on in various departments.

Councilor Delaney said it would be great to close the gap between the Council and Staff.

Mayor Kuretski stated the Town Manager weekly reports were a great place for those types of items.

Councilor Sundstrom suggested it could be added to the Town Manager's report section of Council meetings to allow residents to be more informed.

Ms. Moretto discussed the Strong Local Economy which included improvements of Cypress Drive and the business community.

Mayor Kuretski stated under Business Community, the Business Liaison appointment had been completed. He had concerns with forming a Business Advisory Council without there being a Council member as a liaison to the board. He suggested one of the Councilors taking the position when Boards and Committee appointments were being determined.

Councilor Sundstrom commented, the Town had a previous initiative to survey the business community and she believed there had been eight recommendations. She appreciated how it continued in the Strategic Plan. She stated she supported the University of Florida and Scripps in theory, but did not believe it was a strategic item.

Ms. Moretto discussed Mobility which included traffic mitigation, South Island Way, and the US Highway One Bridge.

1. Discussion of Draft 2022/2023 Strategic Plan.

Mayor Kuretski stated if anyone on Council wanted to initiate contact with the organization about the draw bridge openings on Indiantown and Donald Ross Roads, it would be a public benefit. He wasn't sure much could be accomplished.

Councilor May stated it was one of his strategic priorities. He thought opening the bridge to allow one leisure boat to pass during rush hour was both a traffic and safety concern. He believed bridge opening should be limited during peak traffic times.

Mayor Kuretski said if he could make something happen it would be great, but suggested it might not belong in the Strategic Plan.

Councilor Schneider felt it was worth a conversation with the United States Coast Guard.

Ms. Moretto continued reviewing the Mobility category initiatives that ranked four or above including West Indiantown Road and Vehicle/Pedestrian/Traffic management. She highlighted the Safety initiative regarding the High-speed rail (Brightline) that included collaborating with the Transportation Planning Agency (TPA) for safety and quiet zone applications.

Mayor Kuretski explained his reasons for rating the Safety category.

Ms. Moretto highlighted the Unique, Small Town Feel initiative regarding Indoor recreations and emergency facilities options for the West Jupiter Community Center.

Vice-Mayor Delaney stated he rated medical marijuana dispensaries a five due to the 82 percent resident approval on a previous ballot.

Councilor May mentioned the history of the medical marijuana item and why it was not approved in the past.

Councilor Schneider stated she would be in support of looking at the zoning concerns regarding medical marijuana dispensaries to get them into areas that made sense.

Council discussed the Community webcam and asked for the project to continue even though it was not being considered as a strategic initiative. They also suggested working with Palm Beach County to make the West Jupiter Community Center an emergency facility and expand the indoor gym space.

Ms. Moretto continued the items for the Unique, Small Town Feel initiative including athletic facility usage, outdoor athletic facilities, new Town green and the Arts.

Council discussed Holiday decorations and Abacoa parking, they asked it to be continued in the budget but felt it did not need to be an initiative. They also mentioned options regarding the vacant Daniels Way property for the new Town green initiative.

1. Discussion of Draft 2022/2023 Strategic Plan.

Mayor Kuretski asked Staff to present a master plan to review the road way design for the Daniels Way property.

Councilor Sundstrom mentioned the large number of comments she received during her election campaign regarding outdoor athletic facilities and its usage.

Councilor Schneider suggested Council look at the scopes for the boards and committees.

Mayor Kuretski agreed. He stated he objected to the roundtable discussion with the Art committee but was still supportive of the arts.

Councilor Sundstrom mentioned the boards and committees were all advisory but the Art committee also planned events at the Community Center. She suggested giving the committee items to advise Council on would be useful.

Councilor Sundstrom stated she was glad Artigras was included as an initiative to bring it back to Jupiter and how it supported small businesses in the Town.

Councilor Delaney mentioned he had met with the Art Committee regarding their proposed projects. He stated the projects were way over budget and required yearly maintenance which Council did not expect. Vice-Mayor Delaney and Councilor May supported a roundtable with the Art Committee in the future but agreed it did not need to be a strategic item.

The next category discussed was green, blue and open spaces. Ms. Moretto said the first two initiatives were protecting local seagrass and to improve water quality in the Loxahatchee River. She said a sustainability plan, hiring a sustainability coordinator, water filling stations and improving shower stations at the beach did not rank high as initiatives.

Councilor May clarified the shower station improvements may be more of a budget item rather than a strategic priority.

Vice-Mayor Delaney agreed the shower improvements and drainage issues should be worked on.

Councilor Sundstrom commented on the sustainability plan which led to the idea of a sustainability coordinator. She spoke to staff at other municipalities with coordinators and she thought there may be value. She mentioned the Town had the components of an environmental sustainability plan throughout Town documents and it was a matter of pulling them together into a vision. Councilor Sundstrom noted the Environmental Task Force met once a quarter and there was a great deal of talent on the committee. She would like to see them do more but a scope would need to be developed.

1. Discussion of Draft 2022/2023 Strategic Plan.

Councilor Schneider suggested a small environmental resource management department to look at all the different issues. She noted environmental sustainability was important to Town residents.

Mayor Kuretski agreed scope was an organizational issue and noted if something was not defined well enough no progress could be made. He suggested a Council member be a liaison to the Environmental Task Force to oversee better definition.

Vice-Mayor Delaney said his hope for the committee was to pursue strategic initiatives that Council put forward.

Councilor Schneider said Council may need to assess if the right Staff was supporting many of the committees.

Councilor Sundstrom asked if Staff could review Town documents to understand what was already addressed toward environmental sustainability. Mayor Kuretski recommended the Task Force take that on.

Mayor Kuretski supported funding for the Jupiter Inlet Foundation to protect seagrass and hoped to partner with other agencies as projects came up.

Ms. Moretto said the next initiatives rated were protect open spaces; enhance Jones Creek; and remove derelict vessels from Jupiter's waterways.

Mayor Kuretski pledged to find a way to deal with derelict vessels because it was what the public expected.

Councilor Schneider noted it was complicated to remove vessels with many agencies involved and some maritime law limitations.

Ms. Moretto went on with two initiatives under the manage growth category; review and update the developmental approval process and explore designating distinct areas, or districts, of local significance throughout Jupiter.

Councilor Schneider said there were many areas in town that were significant to residents but it was difficult to find a way forward because of zoning restrictions. Her thought was to model after Charlotte, North Carolina where they had seven different districts with guidelines to preserve the distinct character of each area.

Vice-Mayor Delaney asked if the thought was to have volunteer residents to preserve the uniqueness of an area. Councilor Schneider said yes, to come up with ways of keeping the character.

Mayor Kuretski noted Councilor Schneider would be the contact for more direction for Staff.

1. Discussion of Draft 2022/2023 Strategic Plan.

Councilor Sundstrom said it was an interesting idea to enhance the small town feel and as a community building aspect.

Vice-Mayor Delaney said he liked the idea.

Town Communication was the final category. Ms. Moretto mentioned engagement and interaction with Council members and residents and a process to educate and inform residents about other agencies and their roles.

Mayor Kuretski said communication was very important and he appreciated the Town's Community Relations Team.

Councilor Sundstrom said she had looked at past years' strategic initiatives and Town Communication had only had a few items. She heard from residents that they wanted their Council accessible so she was thrilled with the initiative. She noted she had brought forward the other agencies item. She wanted to give residents a sense of who was responsible for what.

Ms. Moretto said the next steps would be to revise the plan to reflect the discussion. The final plan would be brought to Council on the second meeting in May and her team would do some outreach and publication.

Mayor Kuretski asked to include perspective from Staff about anything that needed clarification when the plan was brought back to Council.

Councilor Sundstrom wanted to make some comments about the strategic planning process. She noted the number of initiatives had gone up over the past few years but said strategic priorities was not the only way to initiate action items. She suggested giving residents more notice about the process to get their input before Council was finalizing the process.

Vice-Mayor Delaney mentioned a past process using a consultant but noted he liked the current process better.

Councilor Schneider felt the focus was changed to activities rather than outcomes. She said outcomes were important and being able to measure the outcomes. She also stated a cost benefit was missing. Councilor Schneider thought there may be other productive ways to come up with priorities.

Mr. Kitzerow acknowledged the hard work of Ms. Moretto and her team.

ADJOURNMENT – 7:45 P.M.

Laura Cahill, Town Clerk

Jim Kuretski, Mayor