

**The Inglis Town Commission
held the Regular Commission Meeting
Remotely via Zoom
on July 7th, 2020 at 6:00 PM**

**Present Were:
Mayor Merritt, Comm. Brennan, Comm. Monteverde,
Comm. Morin, Comm. Schwing, Comm. Webb
Attorney Fugate**

Motion to Adopt Agenda

Commissioner Monteverde made a motion to adopt the agenda. Commissioner Morin seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Prayer and Pledge to the Flag

Comments, Ordinances, ETC.

1. Attorney Comments:

Attorney Fugate stated he has a couple comments before they get to the ordinances, this is the standard part of the meeting where they talk about plans for the next meeting, he thinks that they are probably in the same position that they were in at the last meeting, the Governor has got an order that extends to August 1st, 12:01 in the morning on August 1st, so that doesn't cover their next meeting he doesn't believe, as far as allowing them to meeting remotely, he assumes with almost certainty, not quite certainty, that he will extend it so that they can continue to meet remotely if they so desire it's just a matter of what the Commission wants to do. If they get close to that meeting date and the Governor has not extended the Executive Order then he will be contacting the Governor's Office, the Commission can continue to meet like they are or have a "hybrid" type meeting where some are in attendance and some attend via Zoom.

Commissioner Monteverde stated with the budget meetings right around the corner his vote would be to hold the meetings in the meeting room or the Community Center as long as they are able to be safe.

Commissioner Morin stated she would be comfortable with whoever is physically compromised to join in remotely but those of them that can, she thinks they can arrange the Commission Room to accommodate them especially during the Budget Workshops.

Commissioner Webb stated she also would be comfortable with attending the meetings.

The Town Clerk stated the Budget Workshops have been held every Wednesday in the month of August in the past and she cannot stress how important it will be this year, since there are only four (4) Wednesdays in August, that the Commission is diligent in their work with their Department Heads to get the Budget process completed without any issues so they can go right into September and hold the Fire Assessment and Budget Hearings without any unforeseen issues.

The Town Clerk stated in the documents received from DEO in the past it clearly states that the Community Center cannot be used for Government Meetings.

Attorney Fugate stated in the correspondence from DEO that is on file it clearly states there are limitations to what the Community Center can be used for, he is waiting on a copy of the grant agreement from DEO, but if those limitations have expired then perhaps also has the limitation on meetings.

Commissioner Schwing stated she would be fine with meeting in person.

Commissioner Brennan stated he would feel more comfortable meeting remotely.

Mayor Merritt stated she would feel more comfortable meeting remotely as well.

Attorney Fugate stated he believes for the budget meetings even if the Governor doesn't extend the order for the Budget Meetings it would be fine but for next month's Regular Meeting so long as the Governor extends the order that allows us to meet remotely any mix of remotely and in person is as good.

Commissioner Webb stated, so now the next question is where, in the Commission Room or in the Community Center, where?

Attorney Fugate stated he is waiting on a copy of the grant agreement to see if the limitations have expired or not it probably has been long enough but the last time this was discussed the answer from DEO was no.

The Town Clerk addressed the Commission stating the next problem would be how to do the recording of the meetings since the remote meetings are being done on the desk top in her office and is only a temporary license the Regular Meetings were being recorded through the sound system in the Commission Room.

Commissioner Webb stated we have time to find out these answers, first can we do partial remote and onsite meetings, which the answer I believe is yes, 2nd question can we do it in the Community Center.

Commissioner Morin asked if the Commissioners brought their laptops and logged into the Zoom Meeting could it be done that way?

Commissioner Morin asked the Attorney if the meetings could be held in the Community Center will this also apply to the Code Enforcement Meetings?

Attorney Fugate stated since the Commission is discussing scheduling meetings and workshops they still needs to schedule the Fire Assessment Approval Meeting and this has to be 20 days between when the TRIM notices go out and the meetings which puts it somewhere between September 10th and the deadline set by the Property Appraiser of September 15th.

Attorney Fugate addressed the Town Clerk stating if he remembers correctly the date they had discussed was September 14th, so if everyone s ok with that it gives them enough lead time to get it approved and over t o the Tax Collectors Office.

Commissioner Morin stated, "I am good with that."

Commissioner Webb stated, "I am good with that."

Commissioner Monteverde stated he has a statement to make here which is important, several years ago Chief MacDonald told him, before he was a Commissioner that he was going to look at the Tax Roll and come up with a way to tax those properties that do not have a building on it or vacant property, last year he committed to all of us that he was going to do that so that our revenue was increased or that we could decrease the other revenue to compensate for this new found revenue and I think last year we statistically came up with 35 to 45% of our fires were on vacant land what I want to make sure is we don't go into this meeting and discover that through the Covid-19 necessities that we have overlooked this opportunity for us again so I'd like to ask that we make sure that Mr. MacDonald has all of that in consideration so when he gives it to Mr. Blake it is complete.

Commissioner Webb stated she will discuss that with Chief MacDonald.

Attorney Fugate asked Commissioner Monteverde if he is good with the 14th?

Commissioner Monteverde stated he is good with the 14th.

Commissioner Webb asked what time on the 14th.?

The Town Clerk stated 6pm.

Commissioner Webb stated the Fire Assessment Meeting will be on September 14, 2020 at 6:00pm.

Commissioner Monteverde stated he has a couple of things he wants to re-address to the Attorney, "I have not been getting your bills timely, I am still missing May and June's bills from you and you've committed for over a year now that you're going to provide them and there not being done and I feel like I am constantly nagging the staff to get them, so can you correct that for me?"

Attorney Fugate stated, "I can, staff has not received Mays bill yet, the minute that they get it you get it."

Commissioner Monteverde stated, "So here's the problem I have, you're performing work functions and you're not giving us timely bills so I haven't got a single clue of what you're doing, so let me give you an example, the last bills I was able to look at were March and April and those bills surprisingly totaled \$14,000.00 and it hasn't been discussed by you what the \$14,000.00 are and what it's for, now I happen to know because I have it but none of the Commissioners know and this is a serious problem, \$14,000.00 is very unusual for bills, I know that our Budget & Finance Commissioner signs these bills but I'm looking at them and I'm concerned so we need these bills timely, so it's not acceptable to me that you turn in a bill in July for May and July for June it needs to be within X days of the completion of the month and somewhere along the line you need to get approval from this Commission before we spend over X-thousand dollars, this is \$14,000.00 that I frankly, that I'm going to ask you next month on my request to explain to us what it's for, so I think we have a vested interest in governing the Town but we also need to control our expenses and we have to understand from you several things, what can we do to lower your bill and what can you do to teach us how to lower our bill."

Attorney Fugate stated, "Are there any concerns that you have right now that we can talk about, there are multiple issues, matters on those bills that are not recurring, we've got one Litigant that has added costs to those bills."

Commissioner Monteverde stated, "I understand that, and I don't want to go through that tonight cause we're going to be lengthy, but let me just take one for example, cause you wanted one. I wrote a letter regarding Covid-

19 that actually John MacDonald, Wayne Moore and myself wrote, I gave you a courtesy copy that was published in the newspaper, you charged us an hour of your time and you never once responded to that email that I sent to you, you never gave me a response but you charged us an hour, I have no idea.”

Attorney Fugate stated, “I will have to go back and look at that email specifically and see what it entailed what was incurred and what built up to that hour, it wasn’t just reading an email it was an email and perhaps some attention to something that I needed to look at due to the Corona but I just don’t know I don’t have the information right in front of me but we can talk about it feel free to call me at any time, we’ll have this conversation daily if we have to.”

Commissioner Monteverde stated he is going to place this issue on the agenda to be discussed next month, he wants the Attorney to get his bills current.

Commissioner Webb asked if there were any more questions for the Attorney.

Commissioner Monteverde stated the Commission has a very capable President and that President is working her way through the committee but he finds that the Attorney seems to want to run the meetings and he thinks that we should let the President of the Commission to run the meetings.

Attorney Fugate stated at any time the Commission can stop him if he oversteps his bounds.

Commissioner Webb stated she appreciates the kind words but would like to run the meeting now so with that being said we will move on to Ordinances and Resolutions.

2. Ordinance/Resolutions:

A. Second Reading of Ordinance 02-2020, An Ordinance of the Town of Inglis, Florida to revise the Planning Commission Composition and Structure; Providing for an effective date. (Attorney Fugate)

Attorney Fugate stated this is the second reading of the Ordinance to revise the Planning Commission Composition and will read it by title only reminding the Commission that what this does is take the Planning Commission from a standard seven Commission to a seven Commission with two alternates.

Commissioner Morin made a motion to accept Ordinance 02-2020 on Second Reading. Commissioner Monteverde seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

3. Contracts/Agreements:

A. Request from H. Kenton Lambert to extend current lease between himself and the Town of Inglis For one year.

Commissioner Webb stated the Commission should have received and read the letter from Mr. Lambert requesting the extension of his lease for one year.

Commissioner Brennan made a motion to accept the lease from September 1st, 2020 to August 31st, 2021. Commissioner Monteverde seconded for conversation.

Commissioner Monteverde stated, "What he is about to say is discovery that I've made over the course of years, I probably should have said more last year, I voted no for this last year but I want to clarify some other things this piece of property is actually Levy County property, and if you go physically to the location you will find a home a building that is very nice but on the property appraisers site you're not going to find any indication that that building site exists, so we've been collecting rent from the Lamberts and technically in my ethical view point that rent belongs to Levy County because it's their property the second thing is because this dwelling is not on a plot plan the Lamberts have not been paying taxes all these years now how many law firms has it gone through we've gone through Norm Fugate, we've gone through Brad Bettin, we're back to Fugate it's been investigated by all these legal entities but yet no one has picked up that this building does not exist and the Lamberts do not pay taxes so I am very very uncomfortable that we are supporting someone who doesn't pay taxes and we in turn don't give the money our rent to Levy County, so we don't do this for any other citizen, not us not anyone else, so I would like you to really consider that we cancel this and get out from underneath it and potentially raise our hand to Levy County and say forgive us so that's kind of where I am."

Commissioner Morin stated, "Stop me if I'm wrong but they were originally, twenty some odd years ago, allowed to stay there because they were looking out for the well-being of the park by being there and we, the Town of Inglis, is leasing that property so that is why the rent is being paid to us not the county, we are leasing it from the county, the entire piece of property and the only thing that we were allowed to amend I believe last time was imposing a water charge and rent on them, they don't own it so they can't pay taxes on the property."

Commissioner Monteverde stated, "Here's what we actually did last year, last year there were no stipulations at all in any prior years to the Lamberts and last year you agreed with me that we'd put some stipulations in such as calling the police and so on and so forth, but they don't mow the lawn they don't do anything and they never have, they may have volunteered that but it was never in the legal contract but this building that they are living in has somehow mysteriously or miraculously appeared on the property that the property appraiser has no record of it, it doesn't exist, and they don't pay taxes and its on a piece of property that Levy County is basically giving it to us for a ballpark at I think \$25.00 or \$75.00 a year so their gracious enough to do that but the Lamberts are the ones that are reaping the rewards for all of this if this dwelling was on another piece of property they would be paying taxes."

Commissioner Morin stated, "If they owned the property, right, but if they don't own the property how would they pay taxes?"

Commissioner Monteverde stated, "The point is it's not for me and you to answer the point is for the, Blake here to figure out what to do with a dwelling that doesn't exist that people should be paying taxes on so I can't answer the question other than I really want to cancel this lease and get out from underneath it because I am uncomfortable with the ethics of this whole situation and even when you look at the aerials it doesn't exist and I will tell you I have already had a conversation with Oz Barker and there is no tax to the Lamberts on this piece of property."

Commissioner Webb stated, "Because they don't own it, they rent it, it's like a sublease, they rent it from the Town and the Town rents from the County and the county has known about it the whole time, they say they don't know about the building but they've known about it the whole time."

Commissioner Monteverde stated, "But there's no dwelling listed for this piece of property so it's the same as you owning two pieces of property one with a house on it and one without, in this particular case the house does not exist so therefore there no taxes on it."

Attorney Fugate asked if there is a house or a mobile home on it.

The Town Clerk stated it is a mobile home.

Commissioner Monteverde stated "No it is a manufactured home."

Commissioner Webb stated it is not moveable it's manufactured.

Attorney Fugate stated so there is no chance that it's being taxed as a vehicle, if you don't get an RP sticker and turn your mobile into a piece of real property it is taxed as a vehicle, there's no chance that that has happened."

Commissioner Monteverde stated, "No I've talked to Mr. Osborne at some great length and no it's not being taxed at all, he doesn't even know it exists."

The Town Attorney stated "He doesn't go out there due to the fact that it is the Counties piece of property and they are not going to assess a tax they might assess a value to it but they're never going to put a tax on it."

Commissioner Monteverde stated, "As far as he's concerned out there's a ball bark and I think an out building but there's no home, there's no dwelling on it and you can't even see the dwelling because it's hidden under the trees."

Commissioner Brennan stated, "His question is this, we have a mobile home, I don't think it's a modular but maybe it is, but here we are, now we're deciding we want to tax that, we have all the mobile homes in Dan's Park do they pay taxes? I doubt it, we have Dumals Park are we sure that we're going to start this and tax every one of these mobile homes because if you start taxing the Lamberts you better start taxing them all."

Commissioner Monteverde stated, "I don't want to tax anybody."

Commissioner Brennan stated, "I get the impression that you do."

Commissioner Webb stated, "We are remote but we are not going to be rude."

Commissioner Monteverde stated, "I don't want to mix apples & oranges between Dan's Mobile Home Park, whatever, cause we're not involved with that, we personally as a Town are involved with a ball park, we're involved with a lease to the Lamberts, that piece of property doesn't show a dwelling on it, the Commissioner or the Property Appraiser doesn't know that there's a dwelling there, so the only individuals that benefit from this whole thing are the Lamberts. I feel very uncomfortable supporting a dwelling on a piece of property that we get for other use, so I think that's all I can say, and I think that if it's a legal discussion it should be turned over to Mr. Blake and we should put this aside."

Commissioner Webb stated, "I think your right but first let's hear from Commissioner Schwing I think she wanted to say something."

Commissioner Schwing stated, "I just want to clarify the difference between a manufactured home and a modular home, a manufactured home is a home that has wheels it has an electrical pole, where the electrical meter is attached it's a house that can roll away, it's on wheels and is taxed through the DMV, a modular home is real property, so it's a home that gains value, the electric meter is on the structure, it's taxed like real property on the property appraiser where a manufactured home is not it's taxed through the DMV and I know this because I insure them all the time and that's the difference between the two and I'm going to share my opinion about them being there I feel that they are a good deterrent to what could possibly show up in that park if they were not there."

Commissioner Webb asked if there was anyone else that wished to speak before turning it over to the Attorney.

Attorney Fugate stated, "Legally, Oz, because that piece of property itself is owned by the County, even if Oz said there was a building out there and it had some value, unless he knew that the building itself, they can't attach a manufactured home or a modular home and make it real estate on real estate that they don't own, so my guess is that it's somehow still either being taxed as a vehicle, Leeanne's sitting here telling me that she thinks it's a single wide mobile home even though that's nice, she thinks it's a single wide mobile home, I don't know, I've never been out there, so it's either one of two things not being taxed at all or still being taxed as a vehicle. Even if there is a home out there, Oz isn't going to assess because that piece of real estate is owned by the county, he may assess it a value but the tax collector is not going to charge the county any taxes. I think maybe we can shake out whether they need to be paying the tax collector some type of tax on a mobile that's not attached as real estate because I'm almost positive that it can't be attached as real estate if the mobile belongs to the Lamberts I don't see how they could attach that to real property that's not theirs, I just don't see it, so if we want to see if it's being taxed correctly we need to talk to the tax collector, probably not Oz and but other than that the question for you guys I guess is do you want them out there in the first place, if you don't want them out there in the first place and you're not going to renew the lease then there's no reason for me to even look into it."

Commissioner Morin stated, "I have a suggestion. If we add to the lease contract that they are responsible for looking after not only their property but keeping a diligent eye out, and I'd also like to throw in there every other county park has a gate that goes across it that's closed at sundown, my idea would be and the past couple of meetings was to install a gate like there is at the RV Park down there the Barge Canal Park and the one at the end of the road, it's closed at sunset, they would have a key, it's ridiculous the amount of drugs that are going on at that park at night, the restrooms are open, people are living in them and it's a hazard. This would alleviate as part of their contract they would be responsible for locking the gate at dusk opening at sunrise and in between looking after the property, custodians if you will."

Commissioner Webb asked, "Where would you suggest that gate would be?"

Commissioner Morin stated, "Across the front along 40."

The Town Clerk stated, "I believe that was discussed at a previous meeting and that couldn't be done because the parking lot gains access down to the spillway."

Commissioner Morin stated, "Right and the spillway is run by the State, if we get permission from them, they don't want people down there in the middle of the night, do they?"

The Town Clerk stated, "I wouldn't think not."

Commissioner Webb attempted to recognize a resident named Lisa that was having trouble and was not able to unmute her phone.

James Sparkman stated, "He remembers that we had this whole discussion before, and Wayne said that he can't possibly gate this off for several reasons, and he thinks that we might be the point here that for every person that doesn't pay taxes the rest of us half to pay a little bit more, now that includes the whole county of course, this is some kind of loophole that this person is not having to pay taxes where I'd like to get out of paying taxes and if I could do that I'd appreciate it if you all could work me a deal like that too."

The Town Clerk stated she had received a message from "Lisa" her question was, "If there are people living in the bathroom then why aren't the Lamberts calling the police?"

The Town Clerk stated her second questions was, "Being new to the area she heard that Mrs. Lambert stole from the Town so why would we lease to them?"

Commissioner Webb stated she has paid her restitution and that's gone.

Attorney Fugate stated he just needs some direction if there's three of them that want to extend the lease no matter what we can go ahead and do that or if there's three of them that say no way we're not going to extend the lease then we can drop it.

Commissioner Webb called for the vote, we had discussion by the Commission and the community.

Town Clerk Slattery stated Commissioner Brennan made the motion and Commissioner Monteverde had seconded for discussion.

Motion failed 2-3 with Commissioner Brennan the only yes vote and Commissioners Monteverde, Morin, Schwing and Webb voting Nay.

Commissioner Brennan asked if he could make a comment, everybody is talking about a gate and you have concrete barriers that run along the parking lot that is in line with the ball park and there is a gate that could be locked if someone would do so and he thought that either the Fire Department or the Police Department was going to make sure that it was locked.

Commissioner Morin stated there are concrete barriers but all you have to do is walk a few steps to either side and anyone can walk right in, the barriers are mostly for blocking any vehicle entrance.

Commissioner Webb stated there are other walkable areas in the back that are not blocked off and that is how they are getting into the bathrooms.

Mary Sparkman commented that she had heard that there was illegal or criminal activity out there and wanted to know whether the police department had been notified and if patrolling had been stepped up.

The Town Clerk stated this was discussed at a previous meeting when they did have the police officers in attendance but since Covid-19 hit they do not come into Town Hall like they use to and she would contact the Sheriff's Department and let them know the concerns that were discussed this evening.

Attorney Fugate stated so if we're not going to extend their lease, we need to send some kind of communication to them to let them know that the lease had not been extended and as far as it stands right now if you guys want to see if we can get a gate or that you can make it a workable situation, we don't start with sending them a letter telling them to move out now, but if there's not three of them that wants to see if this could be a workable situation then someone needs to send then a communication.

Commissioner Morin stated it would be okay if we can make it workable as long as we make it where they are responsible for something out there taking an active role in the safety and well being and I'm set on a gate.

Commissioner Webb asked if there is any way to talk with the State and get a gate up there, I'd like to see that happen.

Commissioner Morin stated I know on the other barge canal on the citrus side they lock their gate going to the barge canal this is just another entrance to the barge canal and the only things they use it for is fishing and running their dogs, my problem is at night we no longer have night baseball Little League, there's no reason for anybody to be out there at night, this in my mind is the easiest way to stop that.

Attorney Fugate asked Commissioner Morin can you and I look at the lease and the amendment that has been done to it, we put some language in last time I think that was requiring the Lamberts to notify the Sheriff's Department, we put some kind of language in there, it didn't sound like he would be agreeable to much more than that but can you and I look at that lease and get some language that perhaps your comfortable with that maybe we can bring back to the Commission the next time and if there's three of you guys that think it would be workable if we put more stringent language in there saying that at least it's their responsibility to make sure that nothing going on out there and if it does and they don't get it taken care of then they are in violation of their lease, we can put some language like that in there and bring it back to you guys next meeting.

Commissioner Monteverde stated he needs to say something here, we went through this last year and last year the demeanor of Mr. Lambert was confrontational not friendly he didn't want to do anything.

Commissioner Webb stated we have voted and we are in a situation where we want to maybe have a consensus about a gate but we are done with the other, we are ready to move on to the next part. I would suggest that as you suggested Blake, you and Commissioner look at the possibility of a gate, they have until September before they are out on the street.

Attorney Fugate if that language is too stringent for him and he wants to act like he did at the last meeting then that's on him.

Commissioner Monteverde stated, "Commissioner Webb you have just opened the door to reverse what we just decided, that was this property is not paying taxes and we agreed that he was to leave."

Commissioner Webb stated we did not agree that he was to leave, we agreed that we would not renew the lease which is due in September, between now and September we would look at some options to allow them to stay on the property, if we come back in August and find there's no way that's another issue, we will definitely move on

we will say okay your done you're out of here, but for right now we have not renewed it, it's not due to be renewed until September, and I think Commissioner Morin said she voted no unless there was some kind of"

Commissioner Morin stated she voted no to the way it stands right now with an amendment yes but not the way it is right now.

Commissioner Webb stated it has been put to a vote and it will come back up and sorry that we will be revisiting an issue but we've done it before.

Commissioner Webb called for a consensus to have Blake and Commissioner Morin look for options to the lease.

The Town Clerk stated the consensus was 4-1 with Commissioner Monteverde voting against having the Attorney and Commissioner Morin discuss options for the lease.

Consent Agenda

The Town Clerk stated Commissioner Monteverde had requested that the minutes included in the Consent Agenda be revised to include his reasons as to why he had voted zeros across the board on the tallies for the RFP.

1. Minutes: Regular Meetings 06/07/2020
Budget Workshops
Budget Hearings
Workshops
Public Hearings
Special

2. Financial Statements: May 2020

Commissioner Morin made the motion to accept the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Monteverde seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Regular Agenda

1. Planning:

Commissioner Webb stated this is being revisited from last month since the Commission revised the Planning Commission to include alternates to the board.

The Town Clerk stated at the last meeting there was only one opening since then another Planning Commission Member had to resign so this caused two vacancies to the board and according to the Attorney this new vacancy required the Town to advertise again for the Planning Commission Vacancy.

The Town Clerk stated she did get a last-minute request from Pam Flowers-Doman.

Commissioner Webb asked if Ms. Doman was in attendance tonight so that the Commission could interview her.

Ms. Doman stated she is in attendance and addressed the Commission.

Commissioner Schwing asked Ms. Doman if she had plans on staying in the area and if she would be committed.

James Sparkman asked Ms. Doman if she had attended any of the Planning Commission Meeting and was that why she was interested.

Attorney Fugate stated the easiest way and the shorted way would be to make a motion to place two applicants by name on the board and then the remaining could be the alternates.

Commissioner Schwing asked the Attorney about the notation in the Ordinance regarding the attendance of a School Board member to the Planning Commission Board.

A. Revisit the requests from Lenny Licata and Steve Schwing for consideration to the Planning Commission Board.

B. Request from Michael McNally to be considered for the Planning Commission Board.

Commissioner Schwing made a motion to appoint Steve Schwing and Lenny Licata to the board and Michael McNally and Pam Doman as the alternates. Commissioner Morin seconded. Motion carried 4-1 with Commissioner Brennan voting Nay.

Commissioner Monteverde requested that the Town Clerk make sure that any person's joining the Planning Commission Board be made aware that they must fill out Financial Statements.

The Town Clerk stated it is notated in the Ordinance under section A.

2. Code Enforcement:

Commissioner Morin stated there is a need for a Code Enforcement Board Hearing but due to Covid-19 they have not been able to hold a Code Enforcement Board Hearing.

Attorney Fugate stated these meetings must be held in person but with the Governor's Executive Order and the social distancing requirements set forth by the CDC it might prove to be difficult but he would check with the Governor's Office and get back to the Code Enforcement Officer.

3. Old Business:

4. New Business:

A. To set the Proposed Millage Rate for the 2020/2021 Fiscal Year Budget. (Town Clerk)

Town Clerk Slattery stated the Commission was given several different millage rate proposals starting with 5 mills. 5.25 mills, 5.50 mills, 5.75 mills and finally with 6 mills.

Town Clerk Slattery stated these proposed millage rates reflect the different amount of funds the Town would receive through Ad Valorem taxes.

Town Clerk Slattery stated historically the proposed millage rate has always been set higher and then finally set to a lower millage rate at the First Public Budget Hearing.

Commissioner Monteverde asked what the numbers were from last year for these same millage proposals.

Attorney Fugate stated line 6 & 7 on the current millage proposals reflect the values that he thinks Mr. Monteverde is asking for and on line 16, the roll back rate is the millage rate that you would have to put on the new value to get the same dollars worth of revenue coming in.

Commissioner Brennan made a motion to set the tentative millage rate at 6 mills. Commissioner Morin seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

B. To set the date for the First Tentative Budget Hearing. (Town Clerk)

Town Clerk Slattery stated the date for the Tentative Public Budget Hearing will be set for 6pm on September 16th, 2020 if that is good with everyone.

C. To set the date for the Final Budget Hearing. (Town Clerk)

Town Clerk Slattery stated the date then for the Final Budget Hearing will be September 23rd, 2020 at 6pm if the Commission is good with that as well.

Commissioner Webb asked about the Budget Workshops stating were these still going to be held every Wednesday in August at 6pm?

Town Clerk Slattery stated if the Commission was good with the dates if August 5th, 12th, 19th and 26th at 6pm then that will be when they are held.

D. Request to reverse the transfer of funds back to the Water Fund from the Road & Bridge Fund in the amount of \$75,000.00. (Comm. Monteverde)

Commissioner Monteverde stated back in probably October, November period of time we were unsure of what we we're going to do with the Mastadon Bridge so we voted 5-0 to go and borrow money or take money from the Water Fund as a measure to, just in case the grant was not approved or we decided to move along on our own that we, since the grant has been approved and we're moving ahead and the funds were allocated years ago I'd like my \$75,000.00 back, which is un-restricted funds by the way which means they don't really belong to the Road & Bridge Department, reverse back to where they were in good faith in the same method that we all agreed to use it prior.

Commissioner Brennan made a motion that we keep the funds for the time in the Road & Bridge Fund, we have 25% of the bridge coming up that we're going to have to pay it out of funds now if anybody has taken a look at revenues that are coming in now they are drastically being held up, the state is going to be cutting back on what we get, our revenues were \$88,037.11 in June, now a year ago they were

\$169,807.02 that's a difference of \$81,769.91 I look at it, it's a loss we're not going to regain that money you have to remember that our budgets are a projection of what we're going to get in, we're not going to get the money in, everybody's telling us that, Darlene and I met with the CPA, Mr. Beauchamp, he told us the same thing, we're not going to get the money. This budget year is going to be murder you're going to have to cut your budget drastically because we're not going to get the funds next year, everybody's telling you that other communities are looking at it the same way,, anyway I'd like to make a motion that we keep the funds for the time being in the Road & Bridge fund and at the time when the contract and everything is paid for and done and we've paid our share then we can decide what we're going to do with it.

Commissioner Monteverde started to speak stating "you'll have to excuse me but."

Commissioner Webb stated, "No, No, No, sir we have a motion."

Commissioner Monteverde stated, "I have the emotion, I have the agenda item and Mr. Brennan hijacked my motion."

Commissioner Webb stated, "No, No."

Commissioner Brennan commented, "You didn't put a motion out, I put a motion out."

Commissioner Webb stated, "stop, stop, stop, we will not, No, No."

Commissioner Morin stated, "Let's call this to order."

Commissioner Webb stated, "Thank you, we have (inaudible comments at this time) due to Commissioner Monteverde speaking over Commissioner Webb."

Commissioner Webb stated, "We had a motion, Commissioner Brennan started discussion right after he made his motion which was not correct, Tom sorry you should not have started your discussion, you should have waited for a second so I'm going to back up and let Commissioner Monteverde, I thought you had finished your agenda item, if you have not go ahead and speak your peace, finish it, finish it."

The Town Clerk informed Commissioner Webb that as soon as Commissioner Monteverde is done, Commissioner Schwing had her hand up right away.

Commissioner Webb stated she had seen that.

Commissioner Morin stated, "Mr. Monteverde is making a motion, let's be clear about that."

Commissioner Monteverde stated he will finish after he complete his rendition of what we intended to do back at that period of time when we lent the money.

Commissioner Monteverde stated, "Mr. Brennan is inaccurate with the following statement he made and because I know he accounting, years ago you guys, when I say you guys I'm not sure who was part of the Commission, but you've been carrying over for this bridge \$125,000.00 in transportation Capital Outlay, it's

been there for years, this past fall because I didn't know that and it wasn't disclosed we should have never asked the Water Department to come up with the money, but if you look at the balance sheet which Darlene can go look at, she can tell you that we have carried over about a hundred and some odd thousand dollars for years and that was for the Road & Bridge and then we added the \$75,000.00 which you don't need it all and now I have to fight to get it back in good faith that I gave it to you because the Water Department has been the piggy bank for everything that's going on and the Water Department has some needs and unless the Water Department maintains it's functionality and continues with its improvements you won't have anything so this is a very very serious subject."

Commissioner Monteverde stated, so my motion is, I'm going to stay with the original motion is to transfer the money back in good faith the same way it was given to you.

Commissioner Webb stated, "so your motion is to transfer the money from the Road and Bridge back to the Water Department, \$75,000.00, do I hear a second?"

Commissioner Morin stated she will second for discussion, just for discussion.

Commissioner Morin stated, "I do know that the \$125,000.00 was earmarked always for Road & Bridge, the \$75,000.00 was, we were at an impasse, we were going to either do it ourselves or use it towards the 25% that we have to come up with and I don't see any harm with just, it's going to be completed in the next couple of months hopefully before the next fiscal year if we don't use it all which we shouldn't then whatever is left over of that \$75,000.00 should go back to the Water Department I agree with that 100% I think it's no harm no foul to wait a few months until this project is finally done, then you can have your money back.

Commissioner Schwing stated, "I'm just speaking now, I'm a Commissioner, but before I became a Commissioner I was at the meeting where Bill did allot the funds to repair the bridge and not place it towards the grant so we owe for the grant \$76,343 dollars and change which if we committed to the grant then when we committed to the grant years ago we should have committed to those additional monies not coming from the Water Department but coming from other sources to take care of the difference.

Commissioner Webb stated, "Commissioner Monteverde did not commit that money the Commission the five of us committed that money we need to be clear."

Commissioner Morin asked if the \$75,000.00 is transferred back to the Water Department today where will that leave the Road & Bridge Budget, if the \$76,000.00 has to come out of her money to finish the bridge project.

Commissioner Monteverde stated the answer is, it already exists in Transportation Capital Outlay its been there for years.

Commissioner Morin stated that is the Road & Bridge money correct she has to take the money out of that to do all of the rest of the roads in this town.

Commissioner Monteverde stated, "NO that money was set aside particularly for this bridge knowing that years ago you were going to have to share or take money for this major project, so you allocated this, I don't know if it was during your tenure or other people, but it's been carried over year after year after year and I asked a very specific question to the auditors and that question was two months was these were unrestricted funds can they

be used for other than Road & Bridge Projects and the answer was yes the water could be transferred back and you could go back and take the Road & Bridge anything you hadn't used put it back into the General Fund, I asked that specific question, I understood the answer so there is no need for the bridge to use my, use the Water Departments Fund, the Water Department needs money for itself and what I'm about to tell you later and when I make my presentation you will find out why I need certain money, I'm responsible for running this Department it's the cash cow that runs the town if you're in trouble and I can't pony up money for you, you have no place to go, so, but you got to keep the Water Department running efficiently."

Commissioner Webb stated, "You are correct, we have to keep the Water Department running, please lets not get so totally tuned into who's who, the Water Department is not, you're the Liaison, it's not your money."

Commissioner Schwing stated, "I'm gonna, just, as far as that \$125,000.00 from the Transportation Capital Outlay it was set aside for the bridge and then I'm assuming the grant over the years that we've been waiting for, as far as maintain the roads and possibly doing some improvements I'm working on grants right now for that so that's something that I'm working on that I will share later on."

Commissioner Webb stated we are all in this together so come on now.

The Town Clerk stated, "I was always under the impression that funds placed in the Transportation Capital Outlay were funds that were put in the account for, to build up to pave some of the roads and do stuff like that I do not recall it being specified for repairing the bridge where the Capital Improvement line item, the \$75,000.00, was spearheaded for the Mastodon Bridge, Transportation Capital Outlay that's been in there and the Town has been trying to build that up for the possibility of going ahead and paving some roads here or there it wasn't for the repair of the bridge so I just wanted to point that out."

Commissioner Schwing stated, "I feel, I'm going back, I wasn't a Commissioner, but when we applied for the grant then where do we think we were going to get this \$76,343 thousand dollars before the money was moved and the committee, you voted for it, to move it, where was that money to come from, before we/they decided to move it from water, where was that money coming from?"

The Town Clerk stated, "I believe, and I think the Mayor can respond on this one if I'm not correct, isn't that what part of the discussion was at one time with Barbara Holeda and all that they were going to be going after some extended funding to get that so that it wasn't coming out of the Town coffers, I can't recall, there's been, it's been so long, there's been so much discussion I can't answer that for you right now Commissioner Schwing."

Mayor Merritt stated, "I can't and it's been a couple of years almost three years since the grant was written, the Town has always had a 25% cost share in that grant and I think every budget year we had set aside some money but that money kept getting used it wasn't set aside in perpetuity and what, so I don't know what, you know, I just know that July 20th they're starting on the bridge and in 100 days we're gonna have to pay our share so that monies going to have to come out of somewhere if we take it out of the Transportation Improvements then that means, and that money was set aside to grow to eventually be able to pave some of the unpaved roads in Inglis, that Transportation Capital Outlay."

Commissioner Schwing stated \$125,000.00 isn't very much to pave the roads.

The Town Clerk stated, “No not at all that’s why we try to set some aside into it every year.”

Mayor Merritt stated, “And every year we’ve tried to set money to grow that fund to be able to pave them, to start paving them.”

Commissioner Brennan stated, “Just to let you know the last real paving that we did was East Cason Blvd. and Vicki St., now it was quite a long time ago so don’t hold me to the exact figures but as my recollection was the two roads cost \$280 thousand dollars, now that was what in the 90’s that those two roads were let out for construction, but it was roughly \$280 thousand dollars, now you can spend the money, you can send it back to the Water Department, do whatever you want but I’m sincere in telling you that we are not going to have the revenues coming that we had this year we are going to have cut, you’re going to have to find ways to cut your budgets and each one of you are Liaisons to your department heads and you’re going to have to work them to death to get the money to keep the budget going or we’re just going to have to bite the inevitable and let people go and I hate to say that, but I sincerely from all the projections and we don’t have any idea about what the State revenues are actually going to be they haven’t com in yet but we’re going to face an extremely hard budget. I’ve been with the Town since 1992 in one form or another and believe me this is going to be the hardest budget that we have ever had I believe.”

Commissioner Schwing asked if she could ask one more question, “So we’ve built up the revenue in the Water Department, in the past the revenue in the Water Department over time I’m sure, It’s built up over the years, time and time again, what expenditures are used for the Water Department besides maintenance does it just continue to build or have other people taken out funds for other projects in the Town other than Water Department and Commissioner Brennan especially because you were here.”

Commissioner Brennan stated, “If you are asking me, I’ll answer but I don’t want to step over the Commissioner, Bill.”

Commissioner Monteverde stated, “You should feel free to answer cause if you don’t have the answer I do.”

Commissioner Brennan stated, “Over the years we have the water tower in and because the RO Unit did not remove the iron from the water, consequently your membranes in the RO Unit only lasted about three years and they were projected to last 5-7 so the way to solve it was to put in a iron softening unit, which is, you have there now, in front of the RO Unit trouble was we didn’t have the money, so at the time I found an engineer, and when I say I, I mean Mr. Kellman and I, found an engineer who knew the history of the SRF Grant which was on the RO Unit, we were able to re-open that grant which had never been done, we are the first community that ever got the grant re-opened and \$169 thousand dollars later that iron filter was put in and the system with it, we’ve done things like that, you have to start thinking, I don’t know about Mr. Monteverde but since you asked me I’ll tell you what I think, you’re going to need new wells eventually those are your biggest thing, we don’t have a sight for the wells, I’ve been harping on that for years and years about getting property where we can put the new wells in, if one of those wells gets contaminated you can possibly loose another one or all three, that RO Unit cannot run on two wells you can’t do it cause if one well goes out of commission you’re down, is that correct Mr. Monteverde, have you been aware of that, did they tell you that?”

Commissioner Monteverde stated, “Tom I’m aware of a lot of things, I’m actually surprised that you said no to return this money, this water department cannot function, you just supported exactly what I said but you

wanted not to give me my money back and when I say it's my money I've been very diligent going with Wayne on what we have to do and we want to annex some property in, you guys don't know that but I do."

Commissioner Brennan asked, "So where are you going to annex property in?"

Commissioner Webb stated, "Okay, Okay, stop."

Commissioner Brennan stated, "We're getting into to much."

Commissioner Webb stated, "No, no, no, no Commissioner Brennan, Commissioner Monteverde stop, we are off track here that's later in your presentation Commissioner Monteverde we are on the issue of whether to move the money back to the Water Department or leave it where it is, do we have any further discussion from the Commission, I don't want."

Commissioner Morin stated, "I suggest we table this for a couple of months."

Commissioner Monteverde stated, "I'm sorry I can't I've got to put together a budget and that budget is very important and this money is needed for that budget."

Commissioner Webb stated, "Let's see if there's any other, I think we've heard from all the Commissioners except me and I think we need to leave the money where it is for now but let's move to the audience, do we have anyone in the audience who would like to make a comment?"

Commissioner Webb stated, "alright, I'm going to call for the vote on the motion to put the money, \$75,000.00, back into the Water Department."

Commissioner Brennan No

Commissioner Morin Not now next year's Budget

Commissioner Monteverde Yes

Commissioner Schwing Yes

Commissioner Webb No

Motion fails 2-3 with Commissioners Brennan, Morin and Webb voting Nay.

Commissioner Monteverde stated, "I've got to make a statement here, as of tonight I will turn in my resignation tonight, I cannot properly do my job while you guys micromanage me so as of tonight consider myself no longer a Commissioner I am backing out of this meeting I will send you a formal notification tomorrow. Good Night.

5. Dept Report by Commissioners:

A. Budget & Finance.

Commissioner Brennan read the June 2020 Revenues stating the totals this month are \$88,037.11 compared to the same period in 2019 shows that we have lost \$81,769.91 in 2019 the June Revenues were \$169,807.02, and to me I look at that and what I am worried about is that everyone is saying the State Revenues are going to be down, projections are down anywhere from 5% to 20 % and when we talked to

Mr. Beauchamp he stated that those projections are good so if we plan on a projection of a 20% revenue loss then our projections would be pretty close.

Commissioner Brennan commented on the recent notification that was received from Drummond Community Bank regarding the closure of the local branch stating the funds will be moved to Capital City Bank in order to keep it local.

Commissioner Morin stated she has a suggestion and she has spoken to several financial institutions one being Sun Coast Federal Credit Union and they pay more interest on CD's and feels that we should consider that.

Commissioner Brennan stated because we are a Municipality we are limited in what we can do with our reserves and after meeting with Mr. Beauchamp we were told that these funds must be in an FDIC Insured Financial Institution also any banks we put the money in must me members of the Florida Depository Program and backed by Government Bonds, we were also told that the Financial Institutions must be in the State of Florida.

B. Water Dept.

C. Maintenance/R&B.

Commissioner Schwing gave the report for the Maintenance and Road & Bridge Departments and commented on all the projects that the Public Works Department is working on as well as what projects he will attempt to handle in the future.

Commissioner Schwing discussed the grant that she is going after for road paving and building repairs.

D. Law/Fire.

Commissioner Webb stated she has not gotten a report from the Sheriff's Department.

Commissioner Schwing commented on an issue that she feels needs to be addressed to the Sheriff's Department, stating that people are living under the Withlacochee Bridge and the smell from these people using it as a public toilet is disgusting and would like to see it addressed.

Commissioner Webb stated the new building construction at the Fire Department should be starting soon, they ran into a permitting issue with SWFWMD but have gotten it taken care of.

E. Land Use/Code Enforcement.

Commissioner Morin stated she has nothing more to report.

F. Planning.

Commissioner Webb stated until the Board is able to hold a meeting she has nothing to report.

G. Health/Welfare/Rec.

Commissioner Morin stated the Farm Share Truck will be arriving at 7am at the Am-Vets and they are in need of anyone with a strong back to help with unloading and sorting out the food so that they will be ready for the food distribution that will begin at 9am, people will need to line up on Sapp Street then turn into the Am-Vets parking lot to pick up their box, she also will need a Deputy there so if Commissioner Webb would contact the Sheriff she would appreciate it.

Commissioner Morin stated the IRC is thinking about doing an Octoberfest/Fall Festival, where the daytime would be for the kids and afterwards doing a regular Octoberfest at the Am-Vets.

H. Animal Control.

Commissioner Webb stated the Animal Control was very busy this last weekend since it was the 4th of July, she is doing a lot of educating people with the Town Ordinances and the need to get them registered in the Town.

Commissioner Webb stated Pam will be attending the Animal Control Course in August.

6. Public Comments:

Commissioner Schwing stated a group of residents from both Inglis and Yankeetown have formed to pick up trash along Highway 40 and will meet in the Town Hall parking lot on July 25th, 2020 at 8am.

Steve Schwing asked about the Sheriff's Department and if they have changed where and when they are patrolling, he used to see them around more often.

Steve Schwing commented on the lack of service being provided by Waste Pro and was wondering if the Town had any information on that and also wanted to inform the Commission that the garbage trucks are tearing up the roads and feels this needs to be taken care of.

Steve Schwing stated he is happy to be a part of the Planning Commission and is looking forward to working with the Town.

Judy Blum stated she had mentioned before that a wire was hanging down on McCrary and if this could be taken care of she would appreciate it.

Judy Blum complimented Commissioner Schwing on her hard work.

Judy Blum asked about the SERCAP Meeting that is being held at the High School in Bronson, is this a sewer meeting?

Mayor Merritt stated the SERCAP Meeting is an informational meeting for all of the stakeholders from Citrus County, Yankeetown, Levy County and Inglis on the different types of sewer authorities that can be formed and then the stakeholders at that meeting or maybe later on will decide what type of sewer authority they want.

Judy Blum stated she will be out of Town that day and would appreciate it if someone will take notes so that she can stay informed.

Judy Blum commented on Mr. Monteverde's exiting his position stating she is sad to see him go.

James Sparkman stated he had a couple of questions on the Code Enforcement proceedings against Andy White stating according to Mr. White none of the notices were done properly and the Town has spent a lot of money on this so where are we on this and what have we accomplished?

Attorney Fugate stated, "We have a hearing, and just today, just like what has gone on throughout the whole process Andy and his Attorney have attempted to drag it out even further, the hearing today, he was asking for a re-hearing and that got denied, he's objecting to the foreclosure sale that happened, we purchased it at the foreclosure sale, there's an objection out there to that sale, and we've got to have another hearing on that, and I believe today that they've set that for some time close to the end of the month the 30th or the 31st, so it's going back to the Magistrate for her to make a decision on that objection my guess is that she's going to deny his objection and the sale is going to stand, what happens after that how he decides to drag it out any further is beyond me I don't know maybe he will maybe he won't sooner or later we'll get to where the Town owns the property and we'll be able to do something about it."

James Sparkman stated, "So you're saying that all of the notifications were sent properly like they were supposed to be?"

Attorney Fugate stated, "Everything was done just like it was supposed to be."

James Sparkman stated, "There are cops around I saw two standing in front of Shrimp Landing talking but I haven't seen a lot of presence as far as cruising around, but I know there out there, some of us, many of us, inside and outside the town, have their back, although I don't think we're getting \$300,000.00 worth of coverage or there wouldn't be somebody living in the bathroom out at the ball park, and as far as the bridge is concerned people have been living and staying and whatever they do down there for years and years."

Scott Levesque commented on Mr. Monteverde's resignation stating he doesn't feel that he was treated fairly from the beginning by the rest of the Commission.

Pam Doman asked if there has been any issues in the Town with the recent events happening in the Nation.

Judi Blum asked if there was a date yet for the meeting to go back to normal.

Commissioner Webb stated if the Executive Order gets lifted they might be able to do a semi-open meeting in August but there has not been anything noticed yet.

7. Workshops & Special Meetings:

The Town Clerk reminded the Commission of the upcoming Budget Workshops, the Fire Assessment Meeting, The Tentative Budget Hearing and the Final Budget Hearing.

8. Town Clerk:

The Town Clerk stated that she appreciates the support and patience she has been receiving from the Commission especially in her new position and stressed to all that if there is anything that comes up in the Town that needs to be handled she would appreciate a phone call and not the item being mentioned at a town meeting.

9. Comments:

A. Mayor:

Mayor Merritt stated the construction on the Mastadon Bridge will begin on Monday July 20th, 2020.

Mayor Merritt stated all of the conferences she usually attends this time of year will be held virtually so she will not be travelling.

Mayor Merritt reminded everyone to follow the CDC guidelines, wear your mask, use your hand sanitizer, wash your hands etc.

B. Commission.

Commissioner Brennan stated he is just worried what we are facing with this budget.

Commissioner Morin commented on the need for everyone to please wear their masks when they are out in public and if they don't have a mask go to Town Hall and ask for one.

Commissioner Morin stated she is deeply saddened that Commissioner Monteverde just resigned like that she just doesn't understand it and she doesn't understand Ms. Blum's and Scott's thinking that we're all against him we might not agree with him all the time and there's not even a fine line, there's a difference between if I don't agree with you or I if I'm ganging up on you, I don't gang up on anybody and I deeply resent that he was a valuable asset to the Town.

Commissioner Schwing stated she going to say the same thing about Bill Monteverde she is deeply saddened and shocked and she knows he has the best interest of the Town at heart.

Commissioner Webb stated she also felt shocked by Mr. Monteverde's resignation.

Commissioner Brennan made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Morin seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Attested By: Town Clerk

Approved By: Mayor

Transcribed By: Darlene M. Slattery