

**JUPITER INLET COLONY  
REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING**

**LIVE AND VIA ZOOM**  
Meeting ID 585 628 8134

**02.13.2023**

**3:00 PM**

**MINUTES**

1. Mayor Comerford Called the Meeting to order at 3:00 PM.

Roll call for the record:

Mayor Daniel J. Comerford III  
Vice-Mayor Milton Block  
Commissioner Richard Busto  
Commissioner Lisa Hines  
Commissioner Marie Rosner

Chief of Police John Pruitt  
Town Administrator Kevin Lucas  
Town Attorney William P. Doney  
Town Clerk Ivelisse Chico-Randazzo

Also present 16 members of the Community via zoom and in person

2. **Public Comments:** Tracy Siani read from the last two issues of Science News and New Scientists regarding light pollution and how it impacts humans and animals. Tony Prosser read a few things from the Malibu Municipal Code as it also relates to a dark sky ordinance regarding lighting. In response to the lighting issue, Mayor Comerford stated that he spoke to Earl Fischer, chairman of the Zoning Committee, who spoke to one of the local builders and he was informed that the lights on a particular home, the lighting will be on a timer. Mayor Comerford also stated that the lighting issue was referred to the Building and Zoning Committee for review and they chose not to take formal action in recommending an ordinance. They felt an ordinance would not be necessary but rather to speak to each residence individually. Vice Mayor Chip Block stated he would attend a Building and Zoning meeting and suggest that they need an ordinance regarding lighting and Commissioner Rosner agreed to do the same. Cindy Keim complemented the Town on the new walkways, and she again brought up the issue of the time of the Commission meeting. She requested to have the Commission meetings changed to 7:00pm. Mayor Comerford stated that I has been discussed that they would have the meeting at different times during the year to see what kind of turn out they will get. Dale Hanes stated that the Town has done a good job in notifying the residents of issues impacting the Town but that the week prior there was a car theft in Town which he found out about it a week later and the Town did not communicate that information to the Town. His concern is that he would have appreciated a call notifying the residents of what happened and to remind them to lock their doors. Vice Mayor Block disagreed with Mr. Hanes saying it is the responsibility of the residents to keep their doors locked and not leave keys in the cars. Chief Pruitt stated that he went back and forth about making a notification because a few years ago when there was a similar incident, he made notifications to the residents and

the residents started a petition to get rid of him because he “blamed the victims and threw them under the bus.” Commissioner Busto then stated that it is the Chief’s discretion as to what information and how much information gets sent out. Cindy Keim stated that she has a friend who lives in Turtle Creek in Martin County who received an alert about the car theft that started in Jupiter Inlet Colony and went into Martin County. She stated because the car theft went into Martin County, the Martin County Sheriff’s Office sent out an alert. She believes that the residents should be alerted with the information. Chief Pruitt stated he will do what the Town wants. Gorman Cooke read a letter that was written by his father in 1996. The letter addresses the noise issue regarding landscaping tools. Vice Mayor Block stated he would be happy to pass an ordinance about the noise as well as very strict fertilizer and pesticide ordinances. He stated it would be cause for a very big meeting.

3. **Vote:** to approve Consent Agenda

- a. January 2023 General Operating Fund Budget Report and Financial Statements
- b. Minutes from January 09, 2023, Regular Commission Meeting.

**Motion:** Vice Mayor Block made a motion to approve.

**Second:** Commissioner Rosner seconded the motion.

**Motion passed 5-0.**

4. **Commission/Staff Reports:**

- a. **Town Administrator-** No report
- b. **Town Clerk –** No report
- c. **Chief of Police-** Chief Pruitt stated that he takes the residents’ safety personally. The Chief stated that on January 10<sup>th</sup> they were alerted by the LPR system and by dispatch that a stolen vehicle entered the Town. He stated the officer arrested a convicted felon with a long violent history. Another situation that happened was an identity theft case which was investigated by Det. Beckmann. Chief Pruitt also spoke about the boat load of illegal immigrants that was tracked by the Coast Guard, 17 were apprehended and 2 jumped overboard but one was eventually apprehended. The night that the latest vehicle was stolen, the Auto Theft Task Force headed by the Palm Beach Sheriff’s Office surveilled a vehicle in Town they had no probable cause to stop them but the people inside the car were people of interest. The Task Force contacted the officer on duty and was told to stay out of the way because they did not want to spook the individuals. Chief Pruitt stated Chief Medina and himself spoke to the heads of the Task Force to voice their concerns to them. Chief Pruitt stated he will not let that happen again. Chief Pruitt stated he has protocols in place now to help reduce the risk of anything happening. Chief Pruitt also stated that there are new scams going on with scammers posing as officers calling people that they have to pay money or the Marshalls will come and arrest them for not showing up in court. Chief Pruitt announced that he will start having crime prevention meetings and invite the residents to have an open dialogue.

- d. **Code Enforcement-** Mayor Comerford reported 5, 3 were regarding port o potties, the other incidents which were regarding permits. No violations issued.
- e. **Town Attorney –No Report**
- f. **Commissioner Reports-** Commissioner Busto stated that the decks look awesome. Commissioner Rosner stated that she would be happy to help put together a task force for a plan for light pollution. She also stated that she sees the police out there doing patrols. Commissioner Hines stated that living in the Colony for 20 years, the reality of not closing your doors went away. She stated it would be a great idea to raise awareness by doing what Chief Pruitt suggested such as workshop or seminar that people can come to educate them.
- g. **Vice-Mayor –** Vice Mayor Block spoke about the meetings he’s had with the new County Commissioners to get to know them. He reported that the meeting with JILONA went very well. The new council in Jupiter is doing very well in scrutinizing development.
- h. **Mayor Comerford-** Mayor Comerford reported that they are still accepting donations for the bench for Steve Baruch. He also reported that they are accepting names for volunteers for the Building and Zoning Committee and also accepting names for volunteers for the Social Committee.

5. **Vote:** First Reading: Resolution 2023-01

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COMMISSION OF THE TOWN OF JUPITER INLET COLONY, FLORIDA, ESTABLISHING A POLICY FOR THE SOLICITATION, COLLECTION AND DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDS FOR CHARITABLE PURPOSES; PROVIDING A CONFLICTS CLAUSE, A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE, AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Vice Mayor Block asked that two amendments be added to the Resolution before It is passed. Resolution was referred back to Attorney Doney for review.

6. **Wrap-up and adjourn.**

Motion: Vice Mayor Block made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:08 p.m.

Second: Commissioner Rosner seconded the motion.

**Motion passed 5-0.**

Approved by:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor Daniel J. Comerford III

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Town Clerk Ivelisse Chico-Randazzo

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**STATE MANDATED STATEMENT**

If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the board, agency, or Commission with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearing, he/she will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, he/she may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

Any person requiring a special accommodation at this meeting because of a disability or physical impairment should contact the Town prior to the meeting. Please contact the Town Administration Office, Administration Building, 50 Colony Road, Jupiter Inlet Colony, and FL 33469 - telephone 746-3787.