

TOWN OF WINDERMERE

Virtual Town Council Workshop Chaine du Lac Annexation

October 24, 2023

PRESENT:

Mayor Jim O'Brien, Council Members Andy Williams, Mandy David, and Tony Davit were present. Also present were Town Manager Robert Smith, Police Chief Dave Ogden, Public Works Director Tonya Elliott-Moore, Town Planner Brad Cornelius, and Town Clerk Dorothy Burkhalter.

Mayor O'Brien called the public information session to order at 6:05pm.

1. OPEN FORUM/PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments were made.

2. ANNEXATION OF CHAINE DU LAC

- a. Presentation
- b. Discussion

Mayor O'Brien gave an introduction for the workshop. He then turned the floor over to Manager Smith. Manager Smith commented on the proposed annexation. He then turned the floor over to Planner Mr. Brad Cornelius. Mr. Cornelius gave a presentation and information regarding annexation, types of annexations, the process, Florida Statutes regarding annexations, Comp Plan and Zoning changes, and a timeline for the annexation process. Manager Smith reported that there would be minimal impacts to Administration. He commented on past annexation interests from Chaine du Lac, fire and police services, politics, and financial impacts. Chief Ogden gave a biography of his career in Law Enforcement that has led him to the Chief of Police in Windermere. He then commented on patrolling/coverage to the area, response times, and the benefits of being within the Towns limits for the first responders. Mayor O'Brien opened the floor to the Council members. First to speak was Member Davit. Member Davit questioned the maintenance of the roadways, lights, stormwater, etc. Manager Smith stated that the HOA would be responsible. He then stated that should there be an issue, the Town could handle what needed to be done and then assess the residents in the subdivision through a MSBU. Member David commented on concerns on the proposed area for annexation with regards to being elected to the Town Council and sitting on Committee's/Boards. She then questioned the time requirements for newly annexed to run for elected positions. Manager Smith stated that one would need to live in the town for one year. Member Stroup questioned the referendum. Manager Smith explained the need and process for a referendum. Member Williams requested clarification that once annexed, newly annexed could become members of non-elected committee's and boards. Manager Smith stated "correct". Member Williams then questioned if there is an existing eastern portion of Chaine du Lac that is "covered by the County"? Manager Smith stated that he was unsure, but an Annexation Agreement would cover the concern. Mr. Cornelius confirmed all property is within the HOA. There being no further questions from the Council, Mayor O'Brien opened the floor to the public. The first to speak was Mr. and Mrs. Tom Ross of 12608 Park Avenue. Mrs. Ross stated that she and her husband were the first residents in subdivision 34 years ago. Mr. Ross commented on concerns with the correct numbers of lots and homes. He stated that there are 44 lots with a few homes built over two lots. Manager Smith explained that 52 homesites would be in the annexation with approximately 2.2 electors in each, calculating to the 108. Mr. Cornelius explained that the area of proposed annexation is more than just the HOA. Discussion followed regarding solid waste pick-up, hurricane debris pick-up, stormwater assessments and possible credits, credit for roadways and sidewalks (none), cost benefit analysis, police response times and coverage. Mayor O'Brien asked the Council for a consensus to move forward with the annexation. He stated that all agreed to move forward.

3. MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL LIAISON REPORTS:

Mayor O'Brien opened the floor for reports. Member David reminded all of the upcoming Halloween parade and event. Mayor O'Brien thanked all for attending and participating in the Bunk Bed - Build.

4. STAFF REPORTS:

- a. **Town Manager Robert Smith** – Manager Smith reported on the upcoming Food Truck event, and the Audit.

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- b. **Town Attorney Heather Ramos** – Not present.
- c. **Police Chief Dave Ogden** – Chief Ogden thanked all for their assistance with the past Bunk Bed Build. He then reported on the recovery of the person who had a medical issue at the Run Among the Lakes.
- d. **Public Works Director Tonya Elliott-Moore** – Director Elliott-Moore commented on the continued work with Rostan regarding the FEMA reimbursements and Hurricane Ian.
- e. **Town Clerk Dorothy Burkhalter** – No report.

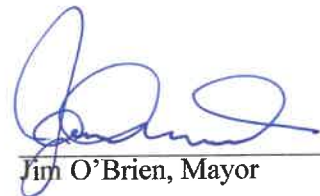
Mr. Cornelius gave an update on the 500-block project.

5. ADJOURN:

Mayor O'Brien adjourned the workshop at 7:03pm



Dorothy Burkhalter, MMC, FCRM
Town Clerk



Jim O'Brien, Mayor

01:18:45 iPhone (8): Mayor & Mr. Smith, iPhone 8 is me, Gloria Groome,
416 E. 6th Ave. I missed the place where I enter my name in Zoom. Plz forgive my
error.

01:24:12 Jim OBrien: Reacted to "Mayor & Mr. Smith, I..." with 👍

01:27:16 iPhone (8): Reacted to "Mayor & Mr. Smith, I..." with 👍

01:45:56 iPhone (8): Removed a 👍 reaction from "Mayor & Mr. Smith, I..."

01:45:58 iPhone (8): Reacted to "Mayor & Mr. Smith, I..." with 👍

01:45:59 iPhone (8): Removed a 👍 reaction from "Mayor & Mr. Smith, I..."

01:46:01 iPhone (8): Reacted to "Mayor & Mr. Smith, I..." with 👍

01:46:02 iPhone (8): Removed a 👍 reaction from "Mayor & Mr. Smith, I..."