

# MINUTES

## CITY OF KEY COLONY BEACH CITY COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING

Friday March 27, 2020 11:00 a.m.

City Hall Auditorium

**1. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance, and Roll Call:** The special meeting of the Key Colony Beach City Commission was called to order by Mayor DeNeale at 11:00 a.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

*Present:* Mayor John DeNeale, Vice Mayor Ron Sutton.

*Virtually Present:* Secretary/Treasurer Patti Trefry, Commissioner April Tracy and Commissioner Kimmeron Lisle.

*Also Present:* City Administrator Christopher Moonis, City Clerk Rebecca Todd, Executive Assistant Saara Staten, Police Chief DiGiovanni.

*Also Present Virtually:* Building Official Gerard Roussin and Building Inspector Greg Lawton.

*Excused:* Fire Chief Johnson, City Attorney Tom Wright  
Public – 62 (Virtually)

**2. Extension of Declaration of Local Emergency:** The Commission reviewed the City of Key Colony Beach 3<sup>rd</sup> Declaration of Local State of Emergency.

**MOTION:** Motion made by Vice Mayor Sutton, seconded by Commissioner Trefry to approve the City of Key Colony Beach 3<sup>rd</sup> Declaration of Local State of Emergency at 11:08 a.m.

**ON THE MOTION:** Roll Call Vote. Unanimous approval.

**3. COVID-19 Update:** City Administrator Moonis read the March 26, 2020 State of Florida COVID-19 Press Release Update. The State has taken actions in the following departments in response to COVID-19:

- Department of Health
- Division of Emergency Management
- Agency for Health Care Administration
- Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation
- Department of Children and Families
- Florida Department of Corrections
- Department of Economic Opportunity (Small Business Administration to make the Economic Injury Disaster Loan program available for Florida's small businesses impacted by COVID-19 has been granted.)
- Florida Department of Education
- Florida Department of Elder Affairs
- Florida Department of Environmental Protection
- Florida Department of Highway Safety & Motor Vehicles
- Office of Insurance Regulations

- Florida Department of Juvenile Justice
- Florida Department of Law Enforcement
- Florida Lottery
- Florida Department of Management Services
- Department of Military Affairs
- Agency for Persons with Disabilities
- Department of Revenue
- CareerSource Florida
- State University System
- Florida Department of Transportation
- Florida Department of Veterans Affairs
- Visit Florida
- Volunteer Florida

City Administrator Moonis encouraged everyone to visit [www.floridahealth.gov](http://www.floridahealth.gov) for the latest COVID-19 updates and reminded them the public city offices are closed but still providing virtual services (telephonically & electronically). Chief DiGiovanni reported the Police Department is taking safety precautions including cleaning office area regularly, wearing PPE (Personal Protection Equipment) when necessary, hosting staff meetings telephonically, and encouraging residents to complete reports telephonically/electronically. Building Official Roussin reported they are alternating days in the office. Public Works is regularly sanitizing public areas that are still open. Paper supplies ordered have been received but antibacterial and hand sanitizer are still on back order (approximately 2 weeks until delivery).

4. **Short-Term Rental Order Update:** Mayor DeNeale stated the City Commission and Staff are in close communication with the County. City Administrator Moonis will be attending a 9:30 a.m. Emergency Manager Call discussing logistics. Mayor DeNeale requested the Mayors in Monroe County come up with a set of metrics that determines when cities should heighten restrictions or lift them.

Chief DiGiovanni reported he's been granted the authority to determine exceptions to the Key Colony Beach Executive Order on short term rentals. He stated 35 requests for exceptions were submitted, 5 were denied, and 18 visitors remain in Key Colony Beach as of today 10 of which will leave tomorrow. After April 1<sup>st</sup>, there will be 3 remaining all of which had rental agreements longer than 3 months. Exceptions were granted due to severe health issues. If you witness any illegal rental activity, please call the Tax Collector's Office at 1(855) 422-4540. That call will then be directed to Building Department for Code Enforcement which will then be directed to the Police Department if problems continue.

Edwin Erosa, 451 12<sup>th</sup> Street, questioned what guidelines Key Colony Beach is following regarding lifting the rental closure. Mayor DeNeale stated the City has an Emergency Directive effective until May 31<sup>st</sup> which will be reviewed on April 23<sup>rd</sup>. Mr. Erosa stated he will be sending Key Colony Beach sanitizer and paper supplies. Mayor DeNeale expressed his gratitude.

Lucille Griffin, 360 11<sup>th</sup> Street, questioned whether she can invite her family to come into town to stay with her. Mayor DeNeale stated Monroe County has shut down access to the Keys for everyone, excluding residents and homeowners.

Melissa Parsons, 860 Shelter Bay & 440 11<sup>th</sup> Street, questioned whether Key Colony Beach will be lifting the ban on short term rentals on April 23<sup>rd</sup>. Mayor DeNeale stated the Key Colony Beach Emergency Order that bans short term rentals is until May 31<sup>st</sup>. On April 23<sup>rd</sup> the Commission will re-evaluate and determine feasibility of lifting the order prior to May 31<sup>st</sup>.

John Ambrosio, 260 Sadowski Causeway, 12 7<sup>th</sup> Street, and 161 10<sup>th</sup> Street, questioned whether his vacation rental business can be excluded from the Key Colony Beach Emergency Order regarding short term rentals. If/When the Governor lifts the ban on hotels, Mr. Ambrosio would like to fall under that category. Mayor DeNeale stated the County Directive and Key Colony Beach directive states you cannot rent to visitors.

Gary Furtak, 150 10<sup>th</sup> Street, reported an issue with homeowners who live in Miami coming to Key Colony Beach. Mayor DeNeale stated we cannot stop homeowners from entering the Keys as they are protected by their property rights.

The meeting adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Rebecca Todd*

Rebecca Todd  
City Clerk