07-16-2026 Citizen Correspondence – Regular Meeting

The City Commission received the following correspondence:

- **June 19, 2026:** Robert and Gail Zimmerman submitted correspondence regarding the June 18, 2026, City Commission meeting and the approval of the boat lift at 841 W. Ocean Drive.

- **June 22, 2026**: Former Key Colony Beach Sergeant Jefferson Rodriguez submitted correspondence in support of Chief Jamie Buxton, recognizing the significance of her appointment and offering comments regarding compensation.

- **July 6, 2026**: Liz Montgomery submitted correspondence expressing appreciation for the renewal of the Golf Course Management contract with Daryl Rice.

- **July 6, 2026:** Ellen Ashooh submitted correspondence thanking the City Commission for the recent improvements to the Golf Course.

- **July 7, 2026:** Jacki Low submitted correspondence expressing appreciation for the improvements to the Golf Course and recognizing the efforts of management, City staff, the City Commission, and the Recreation Committee.

- **July 9, 2026:** Nancy Frisby submitted correspondence expressing appreciation for the improvements made to the Golf Course.

All correspondence has been distributed to the City Commission and will be included in the official minutes of today's meeting.

Sincerely,

Silvia Roussin
City Clerk

Robert and Gail Zimmerman

799 West Ocean Drive

Key Colony Beach, Florida 33051

June 19, 2026

City Commissioners of KCB

600 West Ocean Drive

P.O. Box 510141

City of Key Colony Beach, Florida 33051

ATTN: Mr. Freddie Foster, Mayor and Chair

Dear KCB City Commissioners:

Our family is one of the original owners at Castillo del Sol Condominiums. As such, we have been proud members of the Key Colony Beach community for close to forty years. During this time, we have grown to cherish the beauty and affability that defines the culture of this city. Consequently, words cannot begin to describe the disappointment and disillusionment bordering on disgust, that we experienced witnessing the processing that took place relative to City Commissioners decision to approve construction of the 40,000 lb. boat lift by our neighbor at 841 West Ocean Drive.

What we witnessed was a charade. A Commission that downplayed or ignored the concerns of numerous citizens, and bent over backwards to accommodate the wishes of one individual. The explanations given to support this decision were spineless and underwhelming. To say that this was simply a redo of a previously expired approval, ignores the fact that the prior approval was based on information provided to the Army Corps of Engineers for a smaller scale project that did not include an on-site evaluation. It is also arguable whether this evaluation at the time even included provisions for a boat lift.

A second explanation centered around the fact that there was "nothing in the City Codes to prohibit its (boat lift) construction." Well, why is that? Why is it that we do not having zoning

regulations to protect the beauty and integrity of our ocean front beach? Is that not the function of a planning and zoning board and/or our city leaders? Maybe this is something that should be looked at before we lose what little precious beach we have left. At the same time something should be said for those of us who enjoy the ocean front, whether it be for swimming, snorkeling, paddle boarding, or wind surfing. There are legitimate safety concerns here that were downplayed during the meeting. The justification for this was a legal opinion that the City could, or would not be held liable, should this decision to approve result in any damage or personal injury. Thank you, City Commissioners, for your underwhelming regard for our wellbeing.

The third, and final explanation that we could gleam for approving this shameless debacle was a fear of litigation. Of all the above, this is perhaps the most defensible excuse for this judgement. But, does this mean that anyone of affluence can get anything they want simply by intimating a potential law suit against the city? If we don't have a legal defense in these situations, I challenge our city leaders to initiate or revise our local ordinances so that the KCB does not need to cave to these threats.

Having said our piece, what's done is done, and we will now live with it. Hopefully, you, our city leaders will accept these criticisms in a constructive light, and that we can all learn from this experience. In so doing, maybe some good may eventually come from these proceedings.

Respectfully,

Gail Zimmerman

Robert Zimmerman

Dr. Robert and Gail Zimmerman

Unit D4, Castillo del Sol Condominiums

Cc: KCB Planning and Zoning Board

June 22, 2026

Mayor Freddie Foster
Vice Mayor and Honorable Commissioners
City of Key Colony Beach

RE: Support for Chief Jamie Buxton

Mayor Foster and Honorable Commissioners,

I write this letter as a citizen, former Sergeant of the Key Colony Beach Police Department, and current Police Officer and K9 Handler with the Coconut Creek Police Department to congratulate Chief Jamie Buxton on her appointment as Chief of Police and to express my wholehearted support for the Commission's decision.

First and foremost, congratulations to Chief Buxton on this historic achievement. Her appointment is the culmination of years of dedication, professionalism, and service to both the department and the residents of Key Colony Beach. It is a well-deserved accomplishment that reflects positively on both the City and the Police Department.

I had the privilege of serving the residents of Key Colony Beach from September 2017 through September 2021. I arrived approximately one week after Hurricane Irma and witnessed firsthand the challenges facing the City and Police Department during one of the most difficult periods in the community's history. During my tenure, I served under Chief Kris DiGiovanni and worked alongside many dedicated officers who helped rebuild, stabilize, and strengthen the department in the years that followed.

While Chief Buxton brought prior law-enforcement experience with her to Key Colony Beach, I had the privilege of serving as her Field Training Officer following her arrival at the department. I also trained and supervised Officers Nicholas Niemiec, Joseph Burden, and Ross Bethard during their careers with the agency. Having worked closely with each of these officers and observed their performance, professionalism, leadership abilities, and commitment to public service firsthand, I can state without hesitation that Jamie Buxton was uniquely qualified to lead the Key Colony Beach Police Department into its next chapter.

Throughout her career, Chief Buxton consistently demonstrated professionalism, integrity, sound judgment, leadership, and an unwavering commitment to both the department and the residents she serves. She earned the respect of her peers, supervisors, and community members through hard work, competence, and dedication. More importantly, she possesses a deep understanding of the organization, the expectations of the community, and the unique challenges associated with policing in the Florida Keys.

The Commission's decision to appoint Chief Buxton was not simply the right decision for today—it was the right decision for the future of the agency. Effective leadership, institutional knowledge, and community trust are qualities that cannot easily be replaced, and Chief Buxton possesses all three.

It is also important to recognize the significance of her appointment. Chief Buxton is the first female Chief of Police in the history of the Key Colony Beach Police Department. Having previously become the department's first female Sergeant, her appointment as Chief represents a significant milestone for both the agency and the City and serves as a testament to her hard work, perseverance, and dedication to the profession.

As a final consideration, I would respectfully encourage the Commission to ensure that Chief Buxton's compensation remains commensurate with executive law-enforcement leadership positions throughout Monroe County, the Florida Keys, and surrounding South Florida jurisdictions. I encourage the Commission to review the compensation packages of surrounding Chiefs of Police, Sheriffs, and executive law-enforcement leaders throughout the region. Such a review will demonstrate that many comparable executive leadership positions receive compensation exceeding $160,000 annually. Given Chief Buxton's experience, proven leadership, institutional knowledge, and the substantial responsibilities entrusted to her, compensation consistent with comparable executive leadership positions would be both reasonable and appropriate.

Again, congratulations to Chief Buxton on this historic achievement. Without reservation, I believe she possesses the character, professionalism, vision, and leadership ability necessary to elevate the Key Colony Beach Police Department to new heights. The City has selected an exceptional leader, and I am confident she will continue serving the residents of Key Colony Beach with distinction for many years to come.

Thank you for your time, consideration, and continued dedication to the residents of Key Colony Beach.

Respectfully,

Jefferson Rodriguez

Former Sergeant, Key Colony Beach Police Department (2017–2021)

Police Officer / K9 Handler

Coconut Creek Police Department

Silvia Roussin

From: Liz Montgomery <lizmontgomery38@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 6, 2026 1:07 PM
To: Silvia Roussin
Subject: Thank you

Thank you for renewing Daryl's contract and investing in our golf course that we love.
Liz Montgomery

Silvia Roussin

From: Ellen Ashooh <ehashooh@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 6, 2026 1:31 PM
To: Silvia Roussin
Cc: Cindy Catto
Subject: Golf course renovation

Attn: Silvia
The updates to the course in KCB look fabulous. Thank you so much 😊 and to the entire commission. I can't wait to see it all in person.
Ellen Ashooh
Sent from my iPhone

Silvia Roussin

From: jackie low <jsnorkles@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 7, 2026 5:41 PM
To: Silvia Roussin
Subject: Golf course

Dear KCB City Commissioners and Recreation Committee,

A big shout out to all of you who have participated in making the KCB Golf Course EVEN BETTER. Special kudos to Daryl who never fails to keep the course looking great and the players happy. I can't forget to mention Tom and Kevin for their work assisting Daryl in making the course such a fun experience for all. I also want to commend the City for the money they have spent and hopefully will continue to spend on course improvements. Trees make for a beautiful course and well placed trees add to its safety. Keep them coming! The new maintenance equipment and attractive seating overlooking the 9th hole are wonderful additions. A special thank you to Cindy Catto and the Recreation Community. Their efforts have helped make these improvements possible, and their support in keeping Daryl at the helm has been invaluable to the continued success of the course.

Well done!

Jackie Low
Member of KCB Women's Golf League
Member of course for the past 22 years

Silvia Roussin

From: Nancy Frisby <nfrisby@charter.net>
Sent: Thursday, July 9, 2026 2:20 PM
To: Silvia Roussin
Subject: KCB Golf Course

A big thank you to the KCB City Commissioners and the Rec. committee for the great improvements to the golf course! It will be so appreciated by a great number of folks.