

**LAKE CITY, CITY COUNCIL
COLUMBIA COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
JOINT CITY/COUNTY MEETING
November 18, 2009 6:00 P.M.**

MINUTES

There was a Joint City/County Meeting of the Lake City, City Council and the Columbia County Board of County Commissioners, held on November 18, 2009, in the City Council Chambers on the second floor of City Hall, located at 205 North Marion Avenue, Lake City, Florida, beginning at 6:00 P.M.

1. **CALL MEETING TO ORDER-MAYOR WITT**
Mayor Witt called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. Commissioner Bailey called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M on behalf of the County.

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

3. **INVOCATION-MAYOR WITT**

4. **ROLL CALL**
City Clerk Audrey Sikes called roll for City members. Sandy Markham called the roll for County members.

City Members

Mayor/Councilman	Stephen M. Witt
Vice Mayor	George R. Ward – absent
City Council	Eugene Jefferson
	Jake Hill, Jr.
	Melinda Moses
City Attorney	Blair Payne
Sergeant-at-Arms	Chief Argatha Gilmore – tardy
City Manager	Wendell Johnson
City Clerk	Audrey E. Sikes

County Members

Board Chairman	Stephen Bailey
County Commissioners	Jody Dupree – absent
	Scarlet Friscina
	Dewey Weaver
	Ron Williams
County Attorney	Marlin Feagle
County Manager	Dale Williams
Assistant County Manager	Lisa Roberts
County Clerk	Sandy Markham

5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Witt declared the agenda approved as presented. Members concurred by general consent.

6. FINAL REPORT ON THE ELLISVILLE UTILITY

Mr. Bailey provided a brief history regarding the Ellisville Utility. Mr. Bailey reported the bid has been approved and RFP's will be sent out for the operation and maintenance of the facility. Mr. Ron Williams stated he was disappointed at not being provided a government rate on water. Mr. Williams stated he would still like to work towards a government rate for the County to purchase water from the City. Mr. Johnson stated the rates provided are subject to criteria of statutes for calculating out of City rates. These rates are determined by the current City rates, therefore no government rates would be applicable in this scenario.

7. UPDATE ON THE BASCOM NORRIS CONNECTOR ROAD

Mr. Dale Williams reported there are eight (8) separate ownerships involved, excluding the railroad. Mr. Williams stated there is sufficient space onsite to accommodate retention is able to acquire all of the properties. Mr. Williams reported the project is 95% designed and hopes to have to bid by the first quarter of 2010.

8. OUTSTANDING EMS PAYMENT

Mr. Bailey provided an update on the County EMS personnel inclusive of their training achievements. Mr. Bailey inquired if the City has any intentions for City firefighters to become cross trained. Mr. Johnson reported he has not made that consideration as of yet and that he is still gaining knowledge regarding the subject. Mr. Ron Williams inquired about the outstanding EMS invoice. Mr. Johnson stated he does believe this is an issue for a legal advisor. Mr. Johnson stated he is committed to work towards a solution. Both entities agree for the County Attorney Marlin Feagle, City Attorney Herbert Darby, County Manager Dale Williams and City Manager Wendell Johnson to work collectively towards a solution.

9. LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

Mr. Bailey asked for the City and County to work collectively on the following legislative issues.

- Cost shifts to local governments (bridge responsibilities)
- Conflict council reimbursement
- Supervisor of Election – post pone implementation of the new voting equipment until 2016

10. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Stew Lilker, 247 SW Lander Court, Fort White, Florida. Mr. Lilker discussed several topics:

- A. Provided brief remarks regarding Florida Crown.
- B. EMS – inquired if the County is not considering serving in the City limits.
- C. Discussed time limits on computers located at the Columbia County Public Library.
- D. Provided positive comments regarding the City Clerks office.

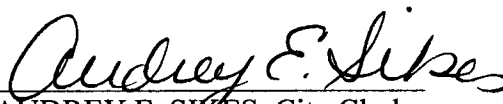
Barbara Lemley, 393 Northwest Fairway Drive, Lake City. Ms. Lemley discussed the following:

- A. EMS – suggested privatizing with a third party provider.
- B. Recycling – Columbia County needs to explore providing more ways to recycle.

Members concurred to hold future Joint City/County meetings the 2nd month of the quarter on the 3rd Tuesday night.

11. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the committee, the Joint City/County meeting adjourned at 8:10 P.M.


AUDREY E. SIKES, City Clerk