

The City Council in and for the citizens of the City of Lake City, Florida, met in Regular Session, on April 19, 2021 beginning at 6:00 P.M., at the Columbia County School Board Administrative Complex Auditorium located at 372 West Duval Street, Lake City, FL 32055, and via Communications Media Technology.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION – Council Member Todd Sampson

ROLL CALL

City Clerk Audrey Sikes introduced and welcomed Michelle Cannon as the new Deputy City Clerk.

Mayor/Council Member
Vice Mayor/Council Member
City Council

City Attorney
City Manager
Sergeant-at-Arms
City Clerk

Stephen M. Witt - absent
Chris Greene
Jake Hill, Jr.
Eugene Jefferson
C. Todd Sampson
Frederick Koberlein, Jr.
Joseph Helfenberger
Chief Argatha Gilmore
Audrey Sikes

PROCLAMATIONS - None

MINUTES - None

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Sampson made a motion to move item #1 up to the beginning of the agenda so Mr. Helfenberger could provide his update regarding Olustee Park. Mr. Hill seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA - None

PRESENTATIONS - None

OLD BUSINESS

Other Items

1. Olustee Park Update and Possible Action (Joseph Helfenberger).

Mr. Helfenberger provided an update reporting the County voted 4/1 to give the City the deed of Olustee Park.

Mr. Koberlein stated they are working on a legal disclosure and to expect something within a week.

PERSONS WISHING TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

Steve Smith – Chamber of Commerce member, asked for the discussion to be kept going on the advocacy platforms relating to the Mega Industrial Park and Infrastructure.

Sylvester Warren – requested to speak at item #11.

Seber Newsome – supports the Olustee Memorial remaining in Olustee Park. And stated if the monument is removed a lawsuit will be filed.

Crystal Constance – encouraged the media, the Lake City Reporter and the Columbia County Observer, for their reporting be neutral and unbiased and to report the facts and not their opinion.

Mary Barlow – supports the Olustee Monument remaining in Olustee Park.

Kyle Green – encouraged members to find an appropriate location to relocate the monument if it is relocated.

Kelly Crocker – spoke in opposition of removal of any veteran's monument. He recommended if the monument is moved, to put it in front of the School Board building, on Hwy 90 and suggested putting this topic on a referendum.

Vanessa George – suggested having a festival everyone can enjoy.

Glennel Bowden – stated if the monument issue is placed on the ballot it would be an unfair advantage.

Bea Coker – requested a public discussion or place it on a referendum.

NEW BUSINESS ORDINANCES

2. City Council Ordinance No. 2020-2174 - (first reading) An ordinance of the City of Lake City, Florida amending Section 102-36 of the City Code to provide for the waiver of impact fees for the development and construction of affordable housing; providing for repeal of ordinances in conflict; providing for severability; providing for codification; and providing an effective date. **Mr. Sampson made a motion to adopt City Council Ordinance No. 2020-2174, on first reading, amending Section 102-36 of the City Code to provide for the waiver of impact fees for the development and construction of affordable housing. Mr. Hill seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed.**

Mr. Sampson	Aye
Mr. Hill	Aye
Mr. Jefferson	Aye
Vice Mayor Greene	Aye

3. City Council Ordinance No. 2021-2180 - (first reading) - An ordinance of the City of Lake City, Florida amending the City Code to add a new section number 86-110.16 to Article III, Chapter 86, which provides for the permanent closing of all of that portion of NW Ridge Street lying in block 122 of the northern division of the City; finding that the street was abandoned by the City; finding that the closing of the roadway will not adversely affect the public health, safety, or welfare; finding that it is in the best interest of the City and for the general welfare of its citizens to close the roadway; providing for the repeal of conflicting ordinances; providing for severability; providing for inclusion into the City code; and providing an effective date. **Mr. Jefferson made a motion to adopt City Council Ordinance No. 2021-2180, on first reading, amending the City Code to add a new section number 86-110.16 to Article III, Chapter 86, providing for the permanent closing of all of that portion of NW Ridge Street lying in block 122 of the northern division of the City; find that the street was abandoned by the City; finding that the closing of the roadway will not adversely affect the public health, safety, or welfare; finding that it is in the best interest of the City and for the general welfare of its citizens to close the roadway; providing for the repeal of conflicting ordinances. Mr. Sampson seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed.**

Mr. Jefferson	Aye
Mr. Sampson	Aye
Mr. Hill	Aye
Vice Mayor Greene	Aye

RESOLUTIONS

4. City Council Resolution No. 2021-048 - A resolution of the City Council of the City of Lake City, Florida, approving and authorizing an annexation agreement with Price Creek, LLC; and providing an effective date. **Mr. Sampson made a motion to adopt City Council Resolution 2021-048, approving and authorizing an annexation agreement with Price Creek, LLC. Mr. Jefferson seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed.**

Mr. Sampson	Aye
Mr. Jefferson	Aye
Mr. Hill	Aye
Vice Mayor Greene	Aye

5. City Council Resolution No. 2021-058 - A resolution of the City Council of the City of Lake City, Florida, authorizing the execution of an agreement with Tindale-Oliver & Associates, Inc., for consulting services to assist the City in accomplishing the Fire Rescue Assessment Project for Fiscal Year 2021-2022, at a cost not-to-exceed \$26,686.00; and establishing an effective date. **Mr. Jefferson made a motion to adopt City Council Resolution 2021-058, authorizing the execution of an agreement with Tindale-Oliver & Associates, Inc., for consulting services to assist the City in accomplishing the Fire Rescue Assessment Project for Fiscal Year 2021-2022, at a cost not-to-exceed \$26,686.00. Mr. Sampson seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed.**

Mr. Jefferson	Aye
Mr. Sampson	Aye
Mr. Hill	Aye
Vice Mayor Greene	Aye

6. City Council Resolution No. 2021-060 - A resolution of the City Council of the City of Lake City, Florida, ratifying the Mayor's extension of the State of Emergency arising from the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency. **Mr. Jefferson made a motion to adopt City Council Resolution 2021-060, ratifying the Mayor's extension of the State of Emergency arising from the COVID -19 Public Health Emergency. Mr. Sampson seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed.**

Mr. Jefferson	Aye
Mr. Sampson	Aye
Mr. Hill	Aye
Vice Mayor Greene	Aye

7. City Council Resolution No. 2021-061 - A resolution of the City Council of the City of Lake City, Florida, authorizing the execution of Task Assignment Number Six to the continuing contract with Jones Edmunds & Associates, Inc., for professional consulting services and assistance with developing a comprehensive Utility Master Plan; authorizing payment for the consulting services at a cost not to exceed \$498,430.00. **Mr. Sampson made a motion to adopt City Council Resolution 2021-061, authorizing the execution of Task Assignment Number Six to the continuing contract with Jones Edmunds & Associates, Inc., for professional consulting services and assistance with developing a comprehensive Utility Master Plan; authorizing payment for the consulting services at a cost not to exceed \$498,430.00. Funding was discussed with Mr. Helfenberger. Mr. Jefferson seconded the motion. A roll call was taken and the motion passed.**

Mr. Sampson	Aye
Mr. Jefferson	Aye
Mr. Hill	Aye
Vice Mayor Greene	Aye

8. City Council Resolution No. 2021-062 - A resolution of the City Council of the City of Lake City, Florida, authorizing the City, by and through the Lake City Police Department, to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement with the Florida Department of Corrections for the purpose of establishing and maintaining support during an actual or anticipated emergency or escape at the Department's Columbia Correctional Institution or Lake City Work Release Center. **Mr. Jefferson made a motion to adopt City Council Resolution 2021-062, authorizing the City, by and through the Lake City Police Department, to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement with the Florida Department of Corrections for the purpose of establishing and maintain support during an actual or anticipated emergency or escape at the Department's Columbia Correctional Institution or Lake City Work Release Center. Mr. Sampson seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed.**

Mr. Jefferson	Aye
Mr. Sampson	Aye
Mr. Hill	Aye
Vice Mayor Greene	Aye

9. City Council Resolution No. 2021-063 - A resolution of the City Council of the City of Lake City, Florida authorizing the City, by and through the Lake City Police Department, to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Department of Veterans Affairs to provide backup law enforcement services as needed. **Mr. Sampson made a motion to adopt City Council Resolution 2021-063, authorizing the City, by and through the Lake City Police Department, to enter into a Memorandum of Understand with the Department of Veterans Affairs to provide backup law enforcement services as needed. Mr. Jefferson seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed.**

Mr. Sampson	Aye
Mr. Jefferson	Aye
Mr. Hill	Aye
Vice Mayor Greene	Aye

DEPARTMENTAL ADMINISTRATION

10. Discussion and Possible Action - Growth Management Director Dave Young is requesting to change the Building Inspector Apprentice position to Administrative Assistant.

Dave Young reported the City has been unable to fill the position of Building Inspector and feels the position could be filled if the title and description are changed to Administrative Assistant. **Mr. Jefferson made a motion to change the Building Inspector Apprentice position to Administrative Assistant. Mr. Sampson seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed.**

Mr. Jefferson	Aye
Mr. Sampson	Aye
Mr. Hill	Aye
Vice Mayor Greene	Aye

Public Comment: Sylvester Warren spoke about the Provision Program and asked that Mr. Young and Mr. Helfenberger look into this.

OTHER ITEMS

11. Discussion and Possible Action- Schedule workshop that was requested on February 1, 2021. (Todd Sampson)

Background: The motion from the February 1, 2021 City Council Meeting was as follows: Mr. Jefferson made a motion to develop an Advisory Committee and to conduct a workshop. Mr. Sampson seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed. Votes: Jefferson-Aye, Sampson-Aye, Hill-Aye, Greene-Aye,

Witt-Nay. **Mr. Sampson made a motion to hold two workshops, one at the Columbia County School Board, and one at Richardson within the next 30 days, on the weekend, on the Police Advisory Committee, for members of the community to provide input. Mr. Hill seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed.**

Mr. Sampson	Aye
Mr. Hill	Aye
Mr. Jefferson	Aye
Vice Mayor Greene	Aye

Public comment: Glennel Bowden addressed Council regarding the workshop last Monday night.

Public comment: Sylvester Warren addressed the Council regarding the workshop last Monday night. Spoke in favor of a Citizen Review Board.

Public comment: Bea Coker addressed the Council regarding her support for the workshop.

Public comment: Vanessa George addressed the Council regarding her support for a Citizens Police Advisory Board.

COMMENTS BY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mr. Hill publicly apologized for the video. Mr. Hill stated that he is sorry for the video and it was wrong. He invited everyone to a Unity Day he is hosting at Memorial Stadium on May 1st from 1-6 PM.

Mr. Sampson reminded there would be a Utility Advisory Committee meeting on Wednesday.

ADJOURNMENT

All matters having been handled, the meeting adjourned at 7:11 p.m. on a motion made and duly seconded.

Audrey Sikes, MMC City Clerk