

The City Council in and for the citizens of the City of Lake City, Florida, met in Joint Session with the Columbia County Board of County Commissioners, on January 31, 2022 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. Members of the public also viewed the meeting live on our YouTube Channel.

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION – Mayor Stephen Witt

#### ROLL CALL

Mayor/Council Member  
City Council

Stephen M. Witt  
Jake Hill, Jr.  
Eugene Jefferson  
Todd Sampson  
Paul Dyal  
Frederick Koberlein, Jr.  
Interim Chief Gerald Butler  
Audrey Sikes

Interim City Manager  
City Attorney  
Sargent-at-arms  
City Clerk

#### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**The agenda was approved on a motion duly made and seconded.**

#### NEW BUSINESS

1. Discussion and Possible Action – Bell Street Sewer Upgrade Memorandum of Understanding

PUBLIC COMMENT: Sylvester Warren

**Mr. Sampson made a motion to approve engaging a Memorandum of Understanding with Columbia County on the Bell Street Project. Mr. Jefferson seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.**

<b>Mr. Sampson</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Jefferson</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Hill</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mayor Witt</b>	<b>Aye</b>

2. Discussion and Possible Action – Bell Street Extension

Members discussed with the County acquiring a plan and suggested what projects to start working together on.

Jamie Bell with Jones Edmonds was present to offer an update on the Master Plan.

3. Discussion and Possible Action – 47 and I75 Regional Pump Station

Interim City Manager and County Manager David Kraus asked the board for direction, and recommended pursuing a grant via a joint effort. **Mr. Sampson made a motion to authorize staff to work together with the County on the 47/I75 pump station, and procuring a grant. Mr. Hill seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.**

<b>Mr. Sampson</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Hill</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Jefferson</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mayor Witt</b>	<b>Aye</b>

4. Discussion and Possible Action – City/County Dispatch

Per Mr. Williams this was already ratified by the City via the former City Manager.

Chief Butler reported he is working with Sherriff Hunter and spoke in support of combining the City/County dispatch. **Mr. Sampson made a motion to authorize the Interim City Manager to work with County Manager David Kraus to continue negotiations. Mr. Jefferson seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.**

<b>Mr. Sampson</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Jefferson</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Hill</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mayor Witt</b>	<b>Aye</b>

5. Discussion and Possible Action - Interlocal for Building Inspections

Members discussed extending this agreement and concurred to have this item added to the next City Council meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Sylvester Warren

6. Discussion and Possible Action - Fish and Game - Pier at Lake Montgomery

Chris Wynn with the Florida Fish and Wildlife reported they already have approximately \$150,000.00 of the \$300,000.00 funding that is anticipated to replace the pier. He stated he needed to identify the other half of the funding by July 1, 2022.

Members of the City Council supported the rebuild, and Mayor Witt stated he was meeting with Mr. Wynn February 8<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 PM at City Hall to discuss the matter further.

Members of the County Commission concurred to put this item on their March agenda.

7. Discussion and Possible Action - Easements for new City Fire Station

After discussion about the sharing of a driveway, and who would be responsible for maintenance, the County passed a motion to allow the City attorney and County attorney to formalize an interlocal agreement. **Mr. Sampson made a motion to allow the attorneys**

**to formalize an interlocal agreement for the driveway and maintenance. Mr. Jefferson seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.**

<b>Mr. Sampson</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Jefferson</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Hill</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mayor Witt</b>	<b>Aye</b>

8. Discussion and Possible Action - Natural Gas - North Florida Mega Industrial Park  
- Presentation Tom Geoffroy - Florida Gas Utility

Mr. Geoffroy gave a presentation on providing gas utilities to the North Florida Mega Industrial Park.

The County is moving forward with a feasibility study.

9. Discussion and Possible Action - North Florida Mega Industrial Park Utilities

Members discussed the possibility of providing utilities to the North Florida Mega Industrial Park.

Jamie Bell with Jones Edmunds discussed the Consecutive Water User idea and stated more discussions would need to take place.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

**All matters having been handled, the meeting adjourned at 8:32 PM on a motion made and duly seconded.**

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Audrey Sikes, MMC City Clerk