

The City Council in and for the citizens of the City of Lake City, Florida, met in a Special Called Regular Session, on April 5, 2023 beginning at 6:00 PM, in the City Council Chambers, located at City Hall 205 North Marion Avenue, Lake City, Florida. Members of the public also viewed the meeting on our YouTube Channel.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION – Mayor Stephen Witt

ROLL CALL

Mayor/Council Member
City Council

Stephen M. Witt
Jake Hill, Jr.
C. Todd Sampson
Chevella Young
Ricky Jernigan
Todd Kennon
Paul Dyal
Chief Gerald Butler
Audrey Sikes

City Attorney
City Manager
Sergeant-at-Arms
City Clerk

PROCLAMATIONS

1. National Public Safety Telecommunications Week - April 9-15, 2023
2. Water Conservation Month - April 2023

Mayor Witt presented proclamations for National Public Safety Telecommunications Week, and Water Conservation Month.

MINUTES

3. March 20, 2023 - Regular Session

Mr. Hill made a motion to approve the March 20, 2023 regular session minutes as presented. Mr. Sampson seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Sampson made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Hill seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – PERSONS WISHING TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

- Monty Ashby
- Shawn Vaughn

- Randy Carter
- Sylvester Warren
- Glenel Bowden

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA – None

PRESENTATIONS – None

OLD BUSINESS

Ordinances – None

Other Items

4. Discussion and Possible Action: Letter from David Kraus, County Manager, dated March 27, 2023 regarding Conditional Acceptance of Richardson Community Center Deed (Mayor Stephen Witt)

PUBLIC COMMENT: Linard Johnson; Glenel Presley

Ms. Young spoke in opposition of funding \$150,000.00 to the County for Richardson Community Center.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Vanessa George; Sylvester Warren; Glenel Bowden

Mr. Hill spoke in opposition of funding \$150,000.00 to anyone. He is willing to help support the recreation at Richardson Community Center based on what the City can afford.

Ms. Young made a motion to send a letter to the Board of County Commissioners stating the City would not fund \$150,000.00 as requested in the Conditional Acceptance of Richardson Community Center Deed letter dated March 27, 2023 and signed by County Manager David Kraus.

Mr. Hill stated he is willing to work with the County if the City can control the funds going to recreation.

Mr. Sampson spoke in opposition to cutting a check to the county in any amount. He spoke in opposition of athletic programs and preferred to see programs like STEM/Research (science, technology, engineering and mathematics), robotics, Florida Crown Adult Education and providing regular police presence at an estimated cost of \$26,000.00 annually for four hours a day, five days a week. Mr. Sampson felt the estimated budget provided by Finance for Richardson was very conservative and those figures could be dramatically higher. He suggested reallocating \$50,000.00 in the budget as follows: \$15,000.00 from basketball, \$20,000.00 from public assistance; \$5,000.00 from the Police Charity Ball and

\$10,000.00 for Lake City Police Department onsite labor. Mr. Sampson would like to see a counter offer sent to the County, the City will invest in programs, the County accepts the deeds and pays for capitol and operational expenditures.

Mayor Witt expressed concern with funding Richardson Community Center and spoke in support of contributing to programs.

Ms. Young spoke in favor of the City reprioritizing and keeping Richardson Community Center and scheduling a workshop.

Mr. Dyal reported the estimated budget was based on how the County ran the Center, and was an estimate of how the City could run it.

A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.

Ms. Young	Aye
Mr. Hill	Aye
Mr. Sampson	Aye
Mr. Jernigan	Aye
Mayor Witt	Aye

Mr. Sampson made a motion to allocate \$50,000.00 in this current fiscal year towards programs at Richardson Community Center. The motion identifies funding as follows: Lake City Police Department onsite officer four hours a day, five days a week \$10,000.00; \$20,000.00 - reallocated from Public Assistance/Promotional Events; \$15,000.00 – reallocated from Columbia Youth Basketball League; and \$5,000.00 – reallocated from the Policeman’s Charity Ball. The motion also includes authorization for staff to include in the letter response to the County a counter proposal regarding the City’s willingness to invest in programs at the Richardson Community Center. Mr. Hill seconded the motion.

Mr. Hill inquired about reactivating the City Recreation Committee.

Members discussed creating a committee for the programs at Richardson.

A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.

Mr. Sampson	Aye
Mr. Hill	Aye
Ms. Young	Aye
Mr. Jernigan	Aye
Mayor Witt	Aye

Members concurred to instruct staff to create a proposal for a committee for the programs at Richardson.

NEW BUSINESS

Ordinances – None

Resolutions

5. City Council Resolution No. 2023-016 - A resolution of the City of Lake City, Florida, adopting a revised Public Record Request Policy; providing for repeal of previous policies; providing for severability; and establishing an effective date. **Mr. Sampson made a motion to remove City Council Resolution No. 2023-016 from the table. Mr. Jernigan seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.**

Mr. Sampson	Aye
Mr. Jernigan	Aye
Mr. Hill	Aye
Ms. Young	Aye
Mayor Witt	Aye

PUBLIC COMMENT: Sylvester Warren

Mr. Sampson made a motion to approve City Council Resolution No. 2023-016, adopting a revised Public Record Request Policy, and providing for repeal of previous policies. Mr. Hill seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.

Mr. Sampson	Aye
Mr. Hill	Aye
Ms. Young	Aye
Mr. Jernigan	Aye
Mayor Witt	Aye

6. City Council Resolution No. 2023-022 - A resolution of the City Council of the City of Lake City, Florida, authorizing the execution of a contract with Careersource Florida Crown; providing for the implementation of the "Summer Youth Employment Program" to include training and employment opportunities with the City from June 05, 2023 through July 13, 2023; and providing an effective date. **Mr. Jernigan made a motion to approve City Council Resolution No. 2023-022, authorizing the execution of a contract with Careersource Florida Crown, and providing for the implementation of the "Summer Youth Employment Program" to include training and employment opportunities with the City from June 05, 2023 through July 13, 2023. Mr. Hill seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.**

Mr. Jernigan	Aye
Mr. Hill	Aye
Mr. Sampson	Aye
Ms. Young	Aye
Mayor Witt	Aye

Mr. Sampson would like to see this program expanded next year.

7. City Council Resolution No. 2023-035 - A resolution of the City Council of the City of Lake City, Florida authorizing the Mayor to execute and deliver a deed conveying to the Board of Commissioners of Columbia County, Florida, a parcel of real property with improvements. **Mr. Hill made a motion to approve City Council Resolution No. 2023-035, authorizing the Mayor to execute and deliver a deed conveying to the Board of Commissioners of Columbia County, Florida, a parcel of real property with improvements. Mr. Sampson seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.**

Mr. Hill	Aye
Mr. Sampson	Aye
Ms. Young	Aye
Mr. Jernigan	Aye
Mayor Witt	Aye

8. City Council Resolution No. 2023-038 - A resolution of the City Council of the City of Lake City, Florida authorizing the addition of Paul Dyal, as City Manager, and Demetrius Johnson, as Assistant City Manager, as authorized signors of all checks, vouchers, transfers, or disbursements on all bank accounts of the City of Lake City, Florida; and providing for an effective date. **Mr. Sampson made a motion to approve City Council Resolution No. 2023-038, authorizing the addition of Paul Dyal, as City Manager, and Demetrius Johnson, as Assistant City Manager, as authorized signors of all checks, vouchers, transfers, or disbursements on all bank accounts of the City of Lake City, Florida. Mr. Jernigan seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.**

Mr. Sampson	Aye
Mr. Jernigan	Aye
Mr. Hill	Aye
Ms. Young	Aye
Mayor Witt	Aye

9. City Council Resolution No. 2023-043 - A resolution of the City Council of the City of Lake City, Florida authorizing the City's participation in the "Walmart Settlement" as described by the Florida Attorney General; providing for the City's participation in the settlement agreement with Walmart Inc.; providing for the Mayor's execution of the participation agreement; and providing for an effective date. **Mr. Hill made a motion to approve City Council Resolution No. 2023-043, authorizing the City's participation in the "Walmart Settlement" as**

described by the Florida Attorney General; providing for the City's participation in the settlement agreement with Walmart Inc., and providing for the Mayor's execution of the participation agreement. Mr. Sampson seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.

Mr. Hill	Aye
Mr. Sampson	Aye
Ms. Young	Aye
Mr. Jernigan	Aye
Mayor Witt	Aye

Other Items

10. Discussion and Possible Action: Nomination(s) for the Northeast Florida League of Cities \$500.00 donation to a local non-profit agency/organization/entity. All applications must be received by April 10.

Ms. Young made a motion to nominate Lake City Heat for the Northeast Florida League of Cities \$500.00 donation to a local non-profit agency/organization/entity. Mr. Hill seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.

Ms. Young	Aye
Mr. Hill	Aye
Mr. Sampson	Aye
Mr. Jernigan	Aye
Mayor Witt	Aye

DEPARTMENTAL ADMINISTRATION

11. Discussion and Possible Action: Consider implementing a 3% convenience fee for all payments on Invoice Cloud and over the counter transactions using a credit/debit card.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Vanessa George

Mr. Sampson spoke in opposition of implementing a 3% convenience fee and stated he would like more time to track payments.

Mr. Sampson made a motion to table Item #11, Discussion and Possible Action, consider implementing a 3% convenience fee for all payments on Invoice Cloud and over the counter transactions using a credit/debit card. Ms. Young seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.

Mr. Sampson	Aye
Ms. Young	Aye
Mr. Hill	Aye
Mr. Jernigan	Nay
Mayor Witt	Aye

COMMENTS BY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mr. Hill expressed concern with the Lake City Police Department taking fifteen (15) minutes to respond to a call.

ADJOURNMENT

All matters having been handled, the meeting adjourned at 7:28 PM on a motion made and duly seconded.

Stephen M. Witt, Mayor/Council Member

Audrey Sikes, MMC City Clerk