

The City Council in and for the citizens of the City of Lake City, Florida, met in Regular Session, on October 2, 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/Council Member 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

MINUTES

- 1. September 5, 2023 Regular Session
- 2. September 18, 2023 Regular Session
- 3. September 26, 2023 Special Called

**Mr. Sampson made a motion to approve the September 5, 2023 Regular Session, September 18, 2023 Regular Session and September 26, 2023 Special Called minutes as presented. Mr. Jernigan 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

- Glenel Bowden

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

- 4. Informational purposes only - Per City Manager Paul Dyal, the City of Lake City is opening negotiations with the Florida State Lodge Fraternal Order of Police, Inc.

5. Approval of travel request in an amount not to exceed \$2,400.00 for Council Member Jake Hill, Jr. to attend the Florida League of Cities FAST (Federal Action Strike Team) Fall Fly-in October 16-19, 2023 in Washington, D.C. Sufficient funds exist in 511.40 to cover cost associated with the travel.

**Mr. Sampson made a motion to approve the consent agenda consisting of items 4-5 as presented. Mr. Jernigan seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.**

## OLD BUSINESS

### Ordinances

**At this time Mayor Witt closed the regular session and opened a public hearing for the purpose of hearing comments on City Council Ordinance No. 2023-2258. City Council Ordinance No. 2023-2258 was read by title. Mayor Witt asked if anyone wanted to be heard regarding City Council Ordinance No. 2023-2258. No one asked to be heard on City Council Ordinance No. 2023-2258, therefore Mayor Witt closed the public hearing.**

6. City Council Ordinance No. 2023-2258 (final reading) - An ordinance of the City of Lake City, Florida, amending the Future Land Use Plan Map of the City of Lake City Comprehensive Plan, as amended; relating to an amendment of 50 or less acres of land, pursuant to an application, CPA 23-04, by the property owner of said acreage, under the Amendment Procedures established in Sections 163.3161 through 163.3248, Florida Statutes, as amended; providing for changing the Future Land Use Classification from Residential, Moderate Density (less than or equal to 4 dwelling units per acre) to Residential, Medium Density (less than or equal to 8 dwelling units per acre) of certain lands within the corporate limits of the City of Lake City, Florida; providing for severability; repealing all ordinances in conflict; and providing an effective date. (TwentyEight Fourteen LLC) **Mr. Sampson made a motion to approve City Council Ordinance No. 2023-2258 on final reading, amending the Future Land Use Plan Map of the City of Lake City Comprehensive Plan, as amended; relating to an amendment of 50 or less acres of land, pursuant to an application, CPA 23-04, by the property owner of said acreage, under the Amendment Procedures established in Sections 163.3161 through 163.3248, Florida Statutes, as amended, and providing for changing the Future Land Use Classification from Residential, Moderate Density (less than or equal to 4 dwelling units per acre) to Residential, Medium Density (less than or equal to 8 dwelling units per acre) of certain lands within the corporate limits 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

At this time Mayor Witt closed the regular session and opened a public hearing for the purpose of hearing comments on City Council Ordinance No. 2023-2259. City Council Ordinance No. 2023-2259 was read by title. Mayor Witt asked if anyone wanted to be heard regarding City Council Ordinance No. 2023-2259. No one asked to be heard on City Council Ordinance No. 2023-2259, therefore Mayor Witt closed the public hearing.

7. City Council Ordinance No. 2023-2259 (final reading) - An ordinance of the City of Lake City, Florida, amending the Future Land Use Plan Map of the City of Lake City Comprehensive Plan, as amended; relating to an amendment of 50 or less acres of land, pursuant to an Application, CPA 23-05, by the property owner of said acreage, under the Amendment Procedures established in Sections 163.3161 through 163.3248, Florida Statutes, as amended; providing for changing the Future Land Use Classification from County Commercial to City Commercial of certain lands within the Corporate Limits of the City of Lake City, Florida; providing severability; repealing all ordinances in conflict; and providing an effective date. (Real Terrace LLC) **Mr. Jernigan made a motion to approve City Council Ordinances No. 2023-2259 on final reading, amending the Future Land Use Plan Map of the City of Lake City Comprehensive Plan, as amended; relating to an amendment of 50 or less acres of land, pursuant to an Application, CPA 23-05, by the property owner of said acreage, under the Amendment Procedures established in Sections 163.3161 through 163.3248, Florida Statutes, as amended, and providing for changing the Future Land Use Classification from County Commercial to City Commercial of certain lands within the Corporate Limits of the City of Lake City, Florida. 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

At this time Mayor Witt closed the regular session and opened a public hearing for the purpose of hearing comments on City Council Ordinance No. 2023-2261. City Council Ordinance No. 2023-2261 was read by title. Mayor Witt asked if anyone wanted to be heard regarding City Council Ordinance No. 2023-2261. No one asked to be heard on City Council Ordinance No. 2023-2261, therefore Mayor Witt closed the public hearing.

8. City Council Ordinance No. 2023-2261 (final reading) - An ordinance of the City of Lake City, Florida, amending the Official Zoning Atlas of the City of Lake City Land Development Regulations, as amended; relating to the rezoning of ten or less contiguous acres of land, pursuant to an application, Z 23-05, by the property owner of said acreage; providing for rezoning from Residential, Single Family-2 (RSF-2) to Residential/Office (RO) of certain lands within the Corporate Limits of the City of Lake City, Florida; providing severability; repealing all ordinances in conflict; and providing an effective date. (TwentyEight Fourteen LLC) **Mr. Hill made a motion to approve City Council Ordinance No. 2023-2261 on final reading, amending the Official Zoning Atlas of the City of Lake City Land Development Regulations, as amended; relating to the rezoning of ten or less contiguous acres of land, pursuant to an application, Z 23-05, by the property owner of said acreage, and providing for rezoning from Residential, Single Family-2 (RSF-2) to Residential/Office (RO) of certain lands within the Corporate Limits of the City of Lake City, Florida. Mr. Jernigan seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.**

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

**At this time Mayor Witt closed the regular session and opened a public hearing for the purpose of hearing comments on City Council Ordinance No. 2023-2262. City Council Ordinance No. 2023-2262 was read by title. Mayor Witt asked if anyone wanted to be heard regarding City Council Ordinance No. 2023-2262. No one asked to be heard on City Council Ordinance No. 2023-2262, therefore Mayor Witt closed the public hearing.**

9. City Council Ordinance No. 2023-2262 (final reading) - An ordinance of the City of Lake City, Florida, amending the Official Zoning Atlas of the City of Lake City Land Development Regulations, as amended; relating to the rezoning of ten or less contiguous acres of land, pursuant to an Application, Z 23-06, by the property owner of said acreage; providing for rezoning from County Commercial, Intensive (CI) to City Commercial, Intensive (CI) of certain lands within the Corporate Limits of the City of Lake City, Florida; providing severability; repealing all ordinances in conflict; and providing an effective date. (Real Terrace LLC) **Mr. Sampson made a motion to approve City Council Ordinance No. 2023-2262 on final reading, amending the Official Zoning Atlas of the City of Lake City Land Development Regulations, as amended; relating to the rezoning of ten or less contiguous acres of land, pursuant to an Application, Z 23-06, by the property owner of said acreage, and providing for rezoning from County Commercial, Intensive (CI) to City Commercial, Intensive (CI) of certain lands within the Corporate Limits of the City of Lake City, Florida. 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>Ms. Young</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Jernigan</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mayor Witt</b>	<b>Aye</b>

Resolutions

10. City Council Resolution No. 2023-112 - A resolution of the City Council of the City of Lake City, Florida, accepting the resignation of Paul Dyal as City Manager; and providing for an effective date. Note: This resolution was tabled on 9/26/2023

**Mr. Sampson made a motion to remove City Council Resolution No. 2023-112 from the table. 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>Ms. Young</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Jernigan</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mayor Witt</b>	<b>Aye</b>

**Mr. Sampson made a motion to approve City Council Resolution No. 2023-112, accepting the resignation of Paul Dyal as City Manager. Mr. Hill seconded the motion.**

Mr. Hill encouraged Mr. Dyal to reconsider rescinding his resignation.

Mr. Jernigan wished Mr. Dyal the best in his future endeavors and stated it was a pleasure to work with him.

Ms. Young and Mayor Witt expressed thanks to Mr. Dyal.

**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>Ms. Young</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Jernigan</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mayor Witt</b>	<b>Aye</b>

11. City Council Resolution No. 2023-113 - A resolution of the City Council of the City of Lake City, Florida, appointing Interim City Manager; granting authority to the Interim City Manager; providing authority to Interim City Manager and City Finance Director, by joint signatures, to sign all checks and vouchers on all City

bank accounts; and providing for an effective date. **Ms. Young made a motion to appoint Dee Johnson as Interim City Manager, granting authority to the Interim City Manager, and providing authority to Interim City Manager and City Finance Director, by joint signatures, to sign all checks and vouchers on all City bank accounts. Mr. Hill seconded the motion.**

Mr. Hill reported speaking with Mr. Dyal, and agreed with him stating Mr. Johnson was well qualified to keep the City moving forward.

Mr. Jernigan stated he was positive Mr. Johnson would make the best decisions for the City.

Mayor Witt reported Jeff Shoobridge had sent his resume in for Council consideration for the interim position and expressed his confidence in Mr. Johnson as serving as Interim.

Mr. Sampson inquired with the City Attorney if the interim manager position required the same qualifications as codified in the Charter for the permanent position.

Attorney Kennon responded no, it is an interim temporary position and the qualifications for the full-time position is clearly delineated in the Code.

**A roll vote was taken and the motion carried.**

<b>Ms. Young</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Hill</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Sampson</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Jernigan</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mayor Witt</b>	<b>Aye</b>

Other Items

- 12. Discussion and Possible Action - City Manager Hiring Process (Council Member Todd Sampson)

Mr. Sampson expressed the importance of looking quickly for a permanent manager and presented his suggested hiring process.

Mayor Witt suggested reaching out to the International City Managers Association (ICMA).

PUBLIC COMMENT: Glenel Bowden

Ms. Young spoke in opposition of looking too quickly for a permanent manager and stated Mr. Johnson needed an opportunity to work the position. She

suggested waiting six months to a year. Ms. Young would like to give Human Resources the opportunity to go through the hiring process.

Mr. Hill stated the City did not need to rush the process and it needed to be vetted. He expressed concern with the under staffing of the Human Resources Department and did not want to place additional burden on the department. Mr. Hill suggested going with a consultant and would like the City Attorney to reach out to Collin Baenziger to see if they were interested in assisting with the search.

Mr. Jernigan spoke in opposition of the Council providing guidelines on the search and stated Human Resources should provide the procedure and qualifications. Best qualified person for the position.

Mayor Witt suggested not taking longer than a month as applicants could find other jobs. He stated it is the job of the council to hire the manager and would like input from the Human Resources Department to assist with the process.

Mr. Sampson stated the council hires the manager and the Charter is specific regarding the qualifications. He stated Human Resources could be utilized for pre-screening of applicants. Mr. Sampson was not opposed to reaching out to Collin Baenziger.

Mayor Witt suggested reaching out to Collin Baenziger for a proposal before the next meeting.

Ms. Young spoke in opposition of hiring a headhunting firm.

**Mr. Hill made a motion to authorize the City Attorney to reach out to Collin Baenziger and Associates to see if they are interested in assisting with the hiring of the City Manager. Mr. Sampson seconded the motion.**

Mr. Jernigan confirmed the process of what reaching out to the firm would consist of.

City Clerk Audrey Sikes confirmed with City Attorney Todd Kennon that it would not be in violation of the procurement process if the City reaches out to Baenziger to gauge interest in assisting with the hiring of the City Manager.

**A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.**

<b>Mr. Hill</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Sampson</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Ms. Young</b>	<b>Nay</b>
<b>Mr. Jernigan</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mayor Witt</b>	<b>Aye</b>

## NEW BUSINESS

### Ordinances

13. City Council Ordinance No. 2023-2264 (first reading) - An ordinance of the City of Lake City, Florida; implementing the State's Statutory Mandate to prepare business impact estimates prior to the adoption of proposed ordinances pursuant to Section 166.041(4), Florida Statutes; providing findings; adopting business impact estimate procedures, requirements, and exemptions; providing for severability; providing for conflicts; and providing for an effective date. **Mr. Hill made a motion to approve City Council Ordinance No. 2023-2264 on first reading, implementing the State's Statutory Mandate to prepare business impact estimates prior to the adoption of proposed ordinances pursuant to Section 166.041(4), Florida Statutes; providing findings, and adopting business impact estimate procedures, requirements, and exemptions. Mr. Sampson seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.**

<b>Mr. Hill</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Sampson</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Ms. Young</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Jernigan</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mayor Witt</b>	<b>Aye</b>

### Resolutions

14. City Council Resolution No. 2023-114 - A resolution of the City Council of the City of Lake City, Florida, authorizing the execution of an agreement with the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council; providing for the receipt of comprehensive planning services; providing for compensation not-to-exceed \$23,500.00; and providing an effective date. **Mr. Jernigan made a motion to approve City Council Resolution No. 2023-114, authorizing the execution of an agreement with the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council; providing for the receipt of comprehensive planning services, and providing for compensation not-to-exceed \$23,500.00. Mayor Witt seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion failed on a 3-2 vote.**

<b>Mr. Jernigan</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mayor Witt</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Hill</b>	<b>Nay</b>
<b>Mr. Sampson</b>	<b>Nay</b>
<b>Ms. Young</b>	<b>Nay</b>

15. City Council Resolution No. 2023-115 - A resolution of the City Council of the City of Lake City, Florida, authorizing the Lake City Police Department to accept the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant in the amount of \$15,448.00; providing for the procurement of equipment for the use and benefit

of the Police Department; and providing for an effective date. **Mr. Sampson made a motion to approve City Council Resolution No. 2023-115, authorizing the Lake City Police Department to accept the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant in the amount of \$15,448.00, and providing for the procurement of equipment for the use and benefit of the Police Department. 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**

**DEPARTMENTAL ADMINISTRATION**

- 16. Discussion and Possible Action: Approval to pay retainer fee in the amount of \$298,821.19 to Legacy Water Works for SR47/I75 Project (Director of Distribution and Collections Brian Scott)

Mr. Dyal reported all work was complete and satisfactory.

**Mr. Hill made a motion to approve to pay the retainer fee in the amount of \$298,821.19 to Legacy Water Works for the SR 47/I75 Project. Mr. Sampson seconded the motion.**

Mr. Sampson thanked Mr. Dyal and staff for working on this project and its completion.

**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**

**COMMENTS BY COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Mayor Witt announced National Night Out would be held tomorrow, October 3 from 5:00 PM – 8:00 PM.

Mr. Jernigan inquired about the arrangements for Corporal Parisi. Chief Butler reported he would release a notice tomorrow, October 3, as to the arrangements.

Mr. Hill expressed his gratitude towards Mr. Dyal.

Mr. Dyal stated it was a great pleasure to serve the Council and said he would miss everyone, especially staff, who was the City's biggest asset. He recommended Assistant City Manager Dee Johnson for the permanent position of City Manager.

ADJOURNMENT

**Mr. Jernigan made a motion to adjourn at 6:52 PM. Mr. Hill seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.**

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Stephen M. Witt, Mayor/Council Member

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Audrey Sikes, City Clerk