

The City Council in and for the citizens of the City of Lake City, Florida, met in Regular Session, on February 20, 2024 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 – Vice Mayor-Council Member Jake Hill

ROLL CALL

Mayor/Council Member
City Council

Stephen M. Witt
Jake Hill, Jr.
Chevella Young

City Attorney
Interim City Manager
Sergeant-at-Arms
City Clerk

Ricky Jernigan
Todd Kennon
Dee Johnson
Chief Gerard Butler
Audrey Sikes

After Mayor Witt read the rules of decorum aloud, Mr. Jernigan inquired about consequences should someone violate the rules. Mayor Witt reported they would be removed.

PROCLAMATIONS – None

MINUTES – None

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Witt reported at the request of the property owner, Item #3 was to be removed. Ms. Young requested to add two items to the agenda: Discussion, Citizen Review Board, and an Emergency Item, Niblack Elementary School Funding, under New Business. **Mr. Hill made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Mr. Jernigan seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.**

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – PERSONS WISHING TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

- Betty Goggins
- Sylvester Warren

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

1. City Council Resolution No. 2024-017 - A resolution of the City Council of the City of Lake City, Florida, accepting the bid from, and authorizing the execution of an agreement with Atlantic Lining Co., Inc. for the replacement of the Sprayfield Effluent Reservoir Liner, at a cost not-to-exceed \$566,382.42.

2. Approval to award Bid No. ITB-009-2024 for Annual Limerock Contract to Pritchett Trucking, lowest bidder.

Mr. Hill made a motion to approve the consent agenda consisting of the items listed above. Mr. Jernigan seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

PRESENTATIONS – None

OLD BUSINESS

Ordinances

3. City Council Ordinance No. 2024-2276 - (final reading) An ordinance of the City of Lake City, Florida, pursuant to Petition No. ANX 24-01, relating to voluntary annexation; making findings; annexing certain real property located in Columbia County, Florida, which is reasonably compact, and contiguous to the boundaries of the City of Lake City, Florida, into the boundaries of the City of Lake City, Florida; providing severability; repealing all ordinances in conflict; and providing an effective date. (Cecilia Davis)

This Item was removed during approval of agenda.

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. 2024-2278. City Council Ordinance No. 2024-2278 was read by title. Mayor Witt asked if anyone wanted to be heard regarding City Council Ordinance No. 2024-2278. No one asked to be heard on City Council Ordinance No. 2024-2278, therefore Mayor Witt closed the public hearing.

7. City Council Ordinance No. 2024-2278 - (final reading) An ordinance of the City Council of the City of Lake City, Florida, amending the City Code to add a new Section Number 86-110.22 to Article III, Chapter 86, which provides for the permanent vacating of a right of way; finding that the right of way was abandoned by the City; finding that the closing of the right of way 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 right of way; providing for the repeal of conflicting ordinances; providing for severability; providing for inclusion into the City Code; and providing an effective date. (McCall) **Mr. Hill made a motion to approve City Council Ordinance No. 2024-2278 on final reading. Mr. Jernigan seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.**

Mr. Hill	Aye
Mr. Jernigan	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. 2024-2279. City Council Ordinance No. 2024-2279 was read by title. Mayor Witt asked if anyone wanted to be heard regarding City Council Ordinance No. 2024-2279. No one asked to be heard on City Council Ordinance No. 2024-2279, therefore Mayor Witt closed the public hearing.

8. City Council Ordinance No. 2024-2279 - (final reading) An ordinance of the City Council of the City of Lake City, Florida, amending Article I Section 70-2 of the City Code related to residency requirements; providing for severability; providing for codification; and providing an effective date. **Mr. Hill made a motion to approve City Council Ordinance No. 2024-2279 on final reading. Mr. Jernigan seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.**

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

Resolutions – None

Other Items

9. Discussion and Possible Action: City Manager Application Review Process (Human Resources Director BillieJo Bible)

PUBLIC COMMENT: James Carter

Mayor Witt reported he had reviewed the applicants, but was not prepared to discuss unless members were ready to narrow them down.

Ms. Young reported she was in the middle of reviewing applications but was not ready to discuss them at this time.

Mayor Witt suggested members present their top three applicants at the next meeting. He stated in person interviews could be held for local applicants, with interviews held over Zoom for anyone out of town.

Ms. Young spoke in favor for all interviews to be held in person.

Mr. Jernigan thanked Human Resources Director BillieJo Bible and Mr. Johnson for compiling the top six applicants.

Ms. Bible reported there was no process or scoring for her selection of the top six candidates. The job description and the City Charter were utilized.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Sylvester Warren

15. Citizen Police Review Board (Council Member Chevella Young)

Ms. Young asked City Attorney Clay Martin to provide an update on the topic of a Citizen Police Review Board, as the members had recently received multiple emails from the community.

Attorney Clay Martin reported the status of legislation on Citizen Review Boards, and stated there were currently two pending bills that would be moving forward, House Bill 601 and Senate Bill 576.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Sylvester Warren

16. Niblack Elementary School Funding (Council Member Chevella Young)

Ms. Young reported Niblack Elementary School would be relocating to another building and suggested donating \$5,000.00 for the food truck event taking place during the move.

At the request of Ms. Young, Principal Murphy and past Principal Ivory informed members of the move, and events taking place.

Ms. Young made a motion to present \$5,000.00 to Niblack Elementary for the food truck event from Public Assistance. The motion provides approval to present \$30,000.00 to Niblack Elementary for programs from the Mariah Fund. Mr. Hill seconded the motion.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Sylvester Warren

A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.

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

NEW BUSINESS

Ordinances – None

Resolutions

- 10. City Council Resolution No. 2024-019 - A resolution of the City Council of the City of Lake City, Florida, authorizing the Lake City Police Department to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with Learning for Life, a foreign non-profit corporation, which operates and maintains the program known as "Exploring Youth Protection" training. **Mr. Jernigan made a motion to approve City Council Resolution No. 2024-019. Mr. Hill seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.**

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

12. City Council Resolution No. 2024-022 - A resolution of the City of Lake City, Florida, approving that certain Supplemental Agreement between the City and State of Florida Department of Transportation for additional Small County Outreach Program (SCOP) Grant Funds in the amount of \$126,871.92 for the design, construction, engineering, and inspection of Grandview Street from Faith Road to McFarlane Avenue; making certain findings of fact in support of the City approving said Supplemental Agreement; recognizing the authority of the Mayor to execute and bind the City to said agreement; directing the Mayor to execute and bind the City to said agreement; repealing all prior resolutions in conflict; and providing an effective date. **Mr. Hill made a motion to approve City Council Resolution No. 2024-022. Mr. Jernigan seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.**

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

Note: Item #12 was read and adopted prior to Item #11.

11. City Council Resolution No. 2024-020 - A resolution of the City Council of the City of Lake City, Florida, authorizing Task Assignment Number Eleven to the continuing contract with Mittauer & Associates, Inc., a Florida Corporation; providing for the Professional Engineering Services associated with Project No. 8904-12-1 and updating the City's Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure Plan to comply with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) and Federal Environmental Protection Agency (FEPA) requirements; providing for a proposed cost of \$6,500.00 and completed by the February 19, 2024 deadline. **Mr. Hill made a motion to approve City Council Resolution No. 2024-020. Ms. Young seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.**

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

Other Items

13. Informational Purposes Only - City Attorney Robinson, Kennon, and Kendron, P.A. invoices for December 2023 and January 2024.

DEPARTMENTAL ADMINISTRATION

14. Discussion and Possible Action: Approval of funding to purchase a large order of Cordonel meters for \$554,960.00 which is not budgeted. Also, approval to move \$500,000.00 from the Utility Administration budget to the Water & Distribution Collections budget, move \$200,000.00 from account 410.70.536-090.99.02 and \$300,00.00 from account 410.70.536-060.63. If approved these funds would be moved to account 410.78.536.030.52 to cover the cost of the meters (Distribution & Collection Director Brian Scott)

Mr. Johnson explained the need for new meters and the time it would take for them to be delivered.

Mr. Jernigan made a motion to grant the acting City Manager and Finance Director to transfer funds as follows: move \$500,000.00 from the Utility Administration budget to the Water & Distribution Collections budget, move \$200,000.00 from account 410.70.536-090.99.02 and \$300,00.00 from account 410.70.536-060.63 to account 410.78.536.030.52 to cover the cost of the meters. Mr. Hill seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.

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

COMMENTS BY COUNCIL

Mr. Hill asked for the status of the grant for the Gwen Lake Project. Mr. Johnson reported Shannon Williams with Gateway Grant Writing & Administration, Inc. was currently waiting on a response for what she has submitted.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Hill made a motion to adjourn at 6:58 PM and the motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

Stephen M. Witt, Mayor/Council Member

Audrey Sikes, City Clerk