

The City Council in and for the citizens of the City of Lake City, Florida, met in Regular Session, on April 1, 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 – Mayor/Council Member Stephen Witt

ROLL CALL

Mayor/Council Member
City Council

Stephen M. Witt
Jake Hill, Jr.
Chevella Young
Ricky Jernigan

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

James Carter
Clay Martin
Dee Johnson
Chief Gerard Butler
Audrey Sikes

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

PROCLAMATIONS

- 1. Child Abuse Prevention Month - April 2024

Mayor Witt presented the Child Abuse Prevention Month Proclamation to Jenny McGovern and Pasha Conrad.

- 2. Water Conservation Month - April 2024

Mayor Witt presented the Water Conservation Month Proclamation to Water Treatment Director, Mike Osborne. Mr. Osborne announced there would be water conservation kits available at the end of the meeting, and that plant tours were available this month.

- 3. Procurement Month - March 2024

Mayor Witt presented the Procurement Month Proclamation to Procurement Director, Brenda Karr.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Glenel Bowden

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

4. March 18, 2024 Regular Session Minutes
5. City Council Resolution No. 2024-032 - A resolution of the City of Lake City, Florida, approving that certain Interagency Agreement between the City, the State of Florida Department of Juvenile Justice, the Columbia County Sheriff's Office, and the Columbia County School District implementing the requirements of Subsection 985.04(1)(c), Florida Statutes concerning the sharing of information about juvenile offenders; 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; directing the Chief of Police of the Lake City Police Department to join the Mayor in executing said Agreement; repealing all prior resolutions in conflict; and providing an effective date.
6. City Council Resolution No. 2024-033 - A resolution of the City of Lake City, Florida, adopting the evaluation and tabulation of responses to that certain invitation to Bid number 004-2024 for improvements to a segment of Southwest Grandview Street; accepting the bid from Florida Fill and Grading, Inc., a Florida Corporation as the lowest responsive bid; approving the Agreement with said vendor; making certain findings of fact in support thereof; 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.
7. City Council Resolution No. 2024-034 - A resolution of the City of Lake City, Florida, recognizing a need for the resurfacing of Camp Street in the City of Lake City; recognizing a need for financial assistance through grant funding to complete the resurfacing of Camp Street in the City of Lake City; authorizing the City to apply for that certain grant pursuant to the Small County Outreach Program for Rural Areas of Opportunities in furtherance of resurfacing Camp Street in the City; making certain findings of fact in support of the City applying for said Grant; recognizing the authority of the Mayor to execute such documents; directing the Mayor to execute said documents; repealing all prior resolutions in conflict; and providing an effective date.

Mayor Witt removed Item #7 from the consent agenda for discussion.

Mr. Carter made a motion to approve the consent agenda as amended. Ms. Young seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

7. City Council Resolution No. 2024-034 - A resolution of the City of Lake City, Florida, recognizing a need for the resurfacing of Camp Street in the City of Lake City; recognizing a need for financial assistance through grant funding to complete the resurfacing of Camp Street in the City of Lake City; authorizing the City to apply for that certain grant pursuant to the Small County Outreach Program for Rural Areas of Opportunities in furtherance of resurfacing Camp Street in the City; making certain findings of fact in support of the City applying for said Grant; recognizing the authority of the Mayor to execute such documents; directing the Mayor to execute said documents; repealing all prior resolutions in conflict; and providing an effective date.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Glenel Bowden

Mr. Johnson reported Infrastructure under the road needed to be looked at, and the road was not ready to be paved.

Mr. Jernigan made a motion to approve City Council Resolution No. 2024-034. Mr. Carter seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.

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

PRESENTATIONS

8. City Council Resolution No. 2024-025 - A resolution of the City of Lake City, Florida, changing the name of that certain segment of Northeast Railroad Street situated between North Marion Avenue and Northeast Davis Avenue; designating the name of said segment henceforth to Northeast Presley Lane within the City of Lake City, Florida; providing for conflicts; providing for severability; providing an effective date.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Odell Anderson – Lenoir

Mr. Hill spoke in opposition of City Council Resolution No. 2024-025.

Mr. Jernigan made a motion to approve City Council Resolution No. 2024-025. Mayor Witt seconded the motion.

Mr. Jernigan suggested renaming the entire street instead of a portion.

Ms. Young reported receiving quite a few calls in opposition of the name change. One of the calls referenced the lack of the petition being brought before the church for a vote.

Mr. Jernigan clarified with Mr. Johnson how that portion of the street came up for renaming. Mr. Johnson reported Railroad is actually two different streets.

Mr. Hill suggested changing the name to Pete’s BBQ or Mr. Petes as that is the only business still on Railroad Street.

Members discussed the process to obtain a street name change.

Mr. Carter clarified with Mr. Johnson that the City was the last of the property owners to sign the petition to change the name.

A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.

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

At this time Mayor Witt presented Ms. Presley with a key to the City and a new signage for the street.

Note: Mr. Jernigan left the meeting at 6:36 PM.

Ms. Presley thanked the City Council members for the honor and presented each member at the dais a spiral note pad to express her appreciation.

OLD BUSINESS

Ordinances – None

Resolutions – None

Other Items

9. City Manager Hiring Process Update (Mayor Stephen Witt)

Mayor Witt reported one candidate had withdrawn from the interview process as and accepted employment elsewhere.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Glenel Bowden

Ms. Young made a motion to reach out to the number four candidate, and if that candidate is unavailable, to reach out to the number five candidate to add to the interview list with the same timeline of April 24th, 25th and 26th, 2024. Mr. Hill seconded the motion.

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

Note: Michael Brillhart and Stephen Popski will be added to the interview list.

10. Additional Street Lighting Update (Mayor Stephen Witt)

Mr. Johnson suggested assessing the needs of additional street lighting before moving forward.

NEW BUSINESS

Ordinances

Open Quasi-Judicial Proceeding

At this time Attorney Clay Martin read from a prepared script.

Preliminary Matters (Attorney Clay Martin):

11. The City Attorney shall read the ordinance by title.

City Council Ordinance No. 2024-2260 (first 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 23-06, 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, Medium Density (less than or equal to 8 dwelling units per acre) to Residential, High Density (less than or equal to 20 dwelling units per acre) 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.

12. Disclosure by Council members of ex-parte communications (this includes site visits), if any.

Mr. Martin asked members individually if there had been any ex-parte communication, including site visits.

Ms. Young	No
Mr. Carter	No
Mayor Witt	No
Mr. Hill	No

13. Swearing in of applicant/appellant, staff and all witnesses collectively by Clay Martin.

Mr. Martin swore in Growth Management Director Dave Young and applicant David Winsburg.

14. Clerk should take custody of exhibits.

Mr. Young submitted an electronic copy of Exhibit A.

A. Brief introduction of ordinance by city staff. (Dave young)

B. Presentation of application by applicant. (David Winsburg)

C. Presentation of evidence by city staff. (Dave Young)

D. Presentation of case by third party intervenors, if any.

- Sylvester Warren was sworn in and spoke in opposition.
- Barbara Mizell Perry was sworn in and spoke in opposition.
- Glenel Bowden was sworn in and spoke in opposition.
- Mr. Hill spoke in opposition.

E. Public comments. (None)

F. Cross examination of parties by party participants. (David Winsburg)

The following responded: Barbara Mizell Perry, Sylvester Warren and Glenel Bowden
Growth Management Director Dave Young responded to testimony.

G. Questions of parties by City Council.

Mr. Carter clarified with Mr. Young that this creates a zoning island.

Ms. Young voiced concerns with the applicant not having a presentation.

H. Closing comments by parties.

- David Winsburg provided 4 pages of exhibits for the record (Exhibit 1).
- Sylvester Warren
- Barbara Mizell Perry
- Growth Management Director Dave Young

I. Instruction on law by attorney.

J. Discussion and action by City Council.

**Mr. Carter made a motion to approve City Council Ordinance No. 2024-2260.
The motion died due to a lack of second.**

Mr. Martin reported with this ordinance, a basis for failure would need to be provided.

Members concurred the basis for failure was the traffic study, wetlands, residents, and spot zoning.

Close Quasi-Judicial Proceeding

- 15. City Council Ordinance No. 2024-2263 (first 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 23-07, by the property owner of said acreage; providing for the rezoning from Residential, Single Family-3 (RSF-3) and Residential, Multiple Family -1 (RMF-1) to Residential, Multiple Family-2 (RMF-2) 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.

This ordinance was not heard as it was contingent upon City Council Ordinance No. 2024-2260 passing.

DEPARTMENTAL ADMINISTRATION

- 19. Discussion and Possible Action: Approval to use a maximum of \$1.8 million of the remaining ARPA funds to replace the 18-year-old Ladder 1 truck. Currently the build time after purchase of a new replacement ladder truck is two (2) years. (Chief Josh Wehinger)

Chief Wehinger presented a PowerPoint presentation and discussed a five-year plan to offset future fire truck costs.

Mr. Hill discussed repairing the City's current truck versus purchasing a new truck.

Matt Herndon, a driver/engineer with the Lake City Fire Department provided Ms. Young with clarification on inspections the truck must pass.

Mr. Carter spoke in support of setting aside ARPA funds to replace the 18-year-old Ladder 1 truck.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Sylvester Warren; Glenel Bowden

Ms. Young made a motion to table the discussion and possible action, replacement of Ladder 1 truck with a maximum of \$1.8 million of ARPA funds until the next meeting (April 15, 2024). Mr. Hill seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.

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

- 20. Discussion and Possible Action: Requesting approval to reclassify one Maintenance Worker position to Inmate Crew Leader and approve job description. The salary would be the same as for a Maintenance Worker, which is already budgeted for FY 2024 (Executive Director of Utilities Steve Brown)

PUBLIC COMMENT: Sylvester Warren

Mr. Carter made a motion to approve the reclassification of one Maintenance Worker position to Inmate Crew Leader and to approve the job description as presented. Mr. Hill seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.

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

COMMENTS BY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Ms. Young suggested to extend an offer to the Lake City Chamber of Commerce to tour along with the City Manager applicants on Day 1 of the interview process and requested this topic be placed on the next meeting agenda.

Mr. Carter reported meeting with departments of the City and wanted to recognize the Lake City Fire Department: Chief Wehinger, Lieutenant Robert Oliver, Lieutenant Greg Sund, Lieutenant Adam Brannon, Daniel Dohrn, Adam Lockwood, Elliot Redish, Michael Kirkman, Chad Reed, Pedro Ovalle, Mathew Herndon, Chris Bethea, Kyle Rodriguez, Trent Kreienheder, Hunter Anderson, Gramby Croft, James Lupardus, Anthony Parnell, Josh Morris, Dustin Alford, John Howard, Chance Spivey, Christina Munro, Ben Kuykendall, Casey Ryan, Levi Register, Brianna Lawson, Administrative Assistant Janet O'Connell, and remembering Assistant Chief Dwight Boozer. Mr. Carter expressed his appreciation to the Lake City Garden Club for maintenance of the flowers downtown.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Carter made a motion to adjourn at 8:13 PM. and the motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

Stephen M. Witt, Mayor/Council Member

Audrey Sikes, City Clerk