

The City Council in and for the citizens of the City of Lake City, Florida, met in Regular Session, on September 21, 2020 beginning at 6:00 P.M., via Communications Media Technology.

## PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION – Council Member Chris Greene

## 1. ROLL CALL

Mayor/Council Member  
Vice Mayor/Council Member  
City Council

Stephen M. Witt  
Melinda Moses  
Chris Greene  
Jake Hill, Jr.  
Eugene Jefferson  
Frederick Koberlein, Jr.  
Joseph Helfenberger  
Chief Argatha Gilmore  
Audrey Sikes

City Attorney  
City Manager  
Sergeant-at-Arms  
City Clerk

## 2. PROCLAMATIONS

None

## 3. MINUTES

None

## 4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**Ms. Moses made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Jefferson seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.**

## 5. PRESENTATIONS

A. Fair Housing Workshop and First Public Hearing for the Fiscal Year 2019 Small Cities Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)

1. Ms. Melissa Fox, Grants Compliance Manager, Fred Fox Enterprises, Inc. presented a PowerPoint Presentation to Council to explain Fair Housing for all protected classes (race, color, familial status, handicap, national origin, religion, and sex).

2. Ms. Melissa Fox, Grants Compliance Manager, Fred Fox Enterprises, Inc. presented a PowerPoint Presentation to Council for the 2019 CDBG Grant Application.

**Upon completion of the presentation, Mayor Witt closed the regular session and opened a public hearing to receive comments on the Fiscal Year 2019 Small Cities Community Development Block Grant (CDBG). Mayor Witt asked if anyone wanted to speak regarding the Fiscal Year 2019 Small Cities Community Development Block Grant (CDBG). No one asked to be heard, therefore Mayor Witt closed the public hearing.**

**Ms. Moses made a motion for the City to apply for the 2019 Community Development Block Grant for Commercial Revitalization in the amount of \$750,000. Mr. Greene seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed.**

<b>Ms. Moses</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Greene</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>

**6. BUDGET HEARINGS**

**At this time Mayor Witt opened a public hearing to accept input from all interested parties relative to the discussion, consideration, and tentative approval of the City's 2020-2021 proposed millage rate and operating budget. Mayor Witt stated the City was offering the opportunity to all in attendance to speak in regard to the budget and asked for all speakers to identify themselves by name. Mayor Witt stated the Finance Director would provide a summary of the budget process and addressed those items essential to compliance with the State of Florida Truth In Millage (TRIM) requirements.**

Finance Director Donna Duncan reported the City Council proposes a final millage rate of 4.9000 mills and a final capital and operating budget of \$60,021,932 for fiscal year 2020-2021. She stated Council action tonight constitutes the "final" budget hearing as required by State TRIM criteria and was announced to the General Public by advertisement in the Lake City Reporter published on September 17, 2020.

Ms. Duncan reported during this hearing, the following agenda will be addressed:

- The Council will discuss the 2020-2021 millage and operating budget and allow citizen input as appropriate.
- The Council will direct announcement of the tentative millage rate proposed for adoption and of any increase, decrease, or no change.
- The City Attorney will read, by title, Millage Resolution No. 2020-081.
- The Council will adopt Millage Resolution No. 2020-081 on final reading.
- The City Attorney will read, by title, Budget Resolution No. 2020-082.
- The Council will adopt Budget Resolution No. 2020-082 on final reading.

**Mayor Witt declared the "Final Budget Hearing" open for discussion for public input followed by discussion by the City Council. No one from the public asked to be heard.**

**Mayor Witt asked if there were any comments of Council. Hearing none the Mayor closed the public hearing.**

Mayor Witt asked the Finance Director to state for the record the taxing authority, the millage rate to be adopted, the rolled-back millage rate, and any change the tentative millage rate represents to the current year's millage.

Finance Director Donna Duncan stated the City Council of the City of Lake City, as Taxing Authority, proposes a final tax on all property located within the City of Lake City, Florida, at the rate of 4.9000 mills for the fiscal year 2020-2021 operating budget. The current year

proposed operating millage rate is a 0.88% increase from the 4.8571 rolled-back millage rate as defined by Florida Statutes and represents no change from the previous year's millage rate of 4.9000 mills.

A. City Council Resolution No. 2020-081, if adopted, will adopt a millage rate for the levy of Ad Valorem Taxes for the City for Fiscal Year 2020-2021; and provide an effective date. **Ms. Moses made a motion to adopt City Council Resolution No. 2020-081, adopting a millage rate for the levy of Ad Valorem Taxes for the City for Fiscal Year 2020-2021. Mr. Greene seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed.**

B.

<b>Ms. Moses</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Greene</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>

C. City Council Resolution No. 2020-082, if adopted, will adopt the Budget for Fiscal Year 2020-2021; and provide an effective date. **Mr. Jefferson made a motion to adopt City Council Resolution No. 2020-082, adopting the Budget for Fiscal Year 2020-2021. Mr. Hill seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed.**

<b>Mr. Jefferson</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Hill</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Ms. Moses</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Greene</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mayor Witt</b>	<b>Aye</b>

7. PERSONS WISHING TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

1. Glenel Bowden addressed Council regarding concerns with dirt bikes near his residence. He also inquired about the Council's letter supporting social distancing and wearing facemasks.

Mayor Witt stated the letter encouraging social distancing and wearing facemasks will go out by Wednesday.

Mr. Jefferson stated he has called the police department several times to report problems with dirt bikes in his district.

8. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

None

9. OLD BUSINESS

A. 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. 2020-2160. City Council Ordinance No. 2020-2160 was read by title. Mayor Witt asked if anyone wanted to be heard regarding City Council Ordinance No. 2020-2160. No one asked to be heard therefore Mayor Witt closed the public hearing.**

1. Ordinance No. 2020-2160 (final reading), if adopted, will amend the land use classification from County Residential Low Density (less than or equal to 2 dwelling units per acre) to City 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 severability; repealing all ordinances in conflict; and providing an effective date. This property is owned by Ralph Peter Mazzocchi and is located at 1175 NW Lake Jeffery Road. **Mr. Jefferson made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2020-2160, on final reading, amending the land use classification from County Residential Low Density (less than or equal to 2 dwelling units per acre) to City 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. This property is owned by Ralph Peter Mazzocchi and is located at 1175 NW Lake Jeffery Road. Mr. Greene seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed.**

<b>Mr. Jefferson</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Greene</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Ms. Moses</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Hill</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mayor Witt</b>	<b>Aye</b>

**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. 2020-2161. City Council Ordinance No. 2020-2161 was read by title. Mayor Witt asked if anyone wanted to be heard regarding City Council Ordinance No. 2020-2161. No one asked to be heard therefore Mayor Witt closed the public hearing.**

2. Ordinance No. 2020-2161 (final reading), if adopted, relates to the rezoning of ten or more contiguous acres of land from County Residential, Single-Family-2 (RSF-2) to City Residential, Single Family-1 (RSF-1) 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 property is owned by Ralph Peter Mazzocchi and is located at 1175 NW Lake Jeffery Road. **Ms. Moses made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2020-2161, on final reading, relating to the rezoning of ten or more contiguous acres of land from County Residential, Single-Family-2 (RSF-2) to City Residential, Single Family-1 (RSF-1) of certain lands within the corporate limits of the City of Lake City, Florida. This property is owned by Ralph Peter Mazzocchi and is located at 1175 NW Lake Jeffery Road. Mr. Hill seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed.**

<b>Ms. Moses</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Hill</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Jefferson</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Greene</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mayor Witt</b>	<b>Aye</b>

10. NEW BUSINESS

A. ORDINANCES:

1. Ordinance No. 2020-2165 (first reading), if adopted, relates 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. This property is located at Alligator Park. **Mr. Greene made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2020-2165, on first reading, 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. This property is located at Alligator Park. Ms. Moses seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed.**

Mr. Greene	Aye
Ms. Moses	Aye
Mr. Jefferson	Aye
Mr. Hill	Aye
Mayor Witt	Aye

Mr. Helfenberger stated that expanding the City boundary does not change any uses, only a change in boundary.

B. RESOLUTIONS:

1. City Council Resolution No. 2020-087, if adopted, will authorize the City to write-off Delinquent Utility Accounts for a period of time ending September 30, 2018; finding the delinquent utility accounts to be uncollectable; and providing an effective date. **Ms. Moses made a motion to adopt City Council Resolution No. 2020-087, authorizing the City to write-off Delinquent Utility Accounts for a period of time ending September 30, 2018; finding the delinquent utility accounts to be uncollectable. Mr. Hill seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed.**

Glenel Bowden addressed Council inquiring what the City does to collect the debt before it gets to this point.

Finance Director Donna Duncan responded that the City pays a company to collect on the old accounts.

Mr. Greene asked about commercial accounts that are being written off, what happens in the case of bankruptcies, ones that are still in business, etc.

Ms. Duncan responded that she would research that for him.

**Ms. Moses           Aye**  
**Mr. Hill             Aye**  
**Mr. Jefferson       Aye**  
**Mr. Greene          Aye**  
**Mayor Witt         Aye**

2. City Council Resolution No. 2020-091, if adopted, will authorize the execution of a Subordination Agreement subordinating the City's utility interest to the Florida Department of Transportation, in real property owned by the City and identified as a twenty (20) foot utility easement recorded in official Records Book 1021, page 698, and located along State Road 247. **Mr. Greene made a motion to adopt City Council Resolution No. 2020-091, authorizing the execution of a Subordination Agreement subordinating the City's utility interest to the Florida Department of Transportation, in real property owned by the City and identified as a twenty (20) foot utility easement recorded in official Records Book 1021, page 698, and located along State Road 247. Mr. Jefferson seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed.**

**Mr. Greene           Aye**  
**Mr. Jefferson        Aye**  
**Ms. Moses           Aye**  
**Mr. Hill             Aye**  
**Mayor Witt         Aye**

3. City Council Resolution No. 2020-092, if adopted, will ratify the Mayor's extension of the State of Emergency arising from the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency. **Mr. Jefferson made a motion to adopt City Council Resolution No. 2020-092, ratifying the Mayor's extension of the State of Emergency arising from the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency. Ms. Moses seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed.**

**Mr. Jefferson        Aye**  
**Ms. Moses           Aye**  
**Mr. Hill             Aye**  
**Mr. Greene          Aye**  
**Mayor Witt         Aye**

4. City Council Resolution No. 2020-093, if adopted, will accept the Bid (ITB No. 024-2020) from Anderson Columbia Co., Inc., for the resurfacing, sealing and striping of the parking area at the Utility Annex. **Mr. Jefferson made a motion to adopt City Council Resolution No. 2020-093, accepting the Bid (ITB No. 024-2020) from Anderson Columbia Co., Inc., for the resurfacing, sealing and striping of the parking area at the Utility Annex. Mr. Greene seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed.**

<b>Mr. Jefferson</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Greene</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Ms. Moses</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Hill</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mayor Witt</b>	<b>Aye</b>

5. City Council Resolution No. 2020-094, if adopted, will authorize the execution of an Agreement with the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council to receive comprehensive planning services for twelve (12) months beginning October 1, 2020 and for a fixed fee amount of \$23,500.00. **Mr. Greene made a motion to adopt City Council Resolution No. 2020-094, authorizing the execution of an Agreement with the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council to receive comprehensive planning services for twelve (12) months beginning October 1, 2020 and for a fixed fee amount of \$23,500.00. Ms. Moses seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed.**

<b>Mr. Greene</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Ms. Moses</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>

6. City Council Resolution No. 2020-099, if adopted, will call for an election to be held on November 3, 2020, for the election of a Council Member from District Thirteen; and directs the City Clerk to coordinate arrangements for said election with the Columbia County Supervisor of Elections; and directs the Clerk to publish Notice of the Election. **Mr. Jefferson made a motion to adopt City Council Resolution No. 2020-099, calling for an election to be held on November 3, 2020, for the election of a Council Member from District Thirteen; and directs the City Clerk to coordinate arrangements for said election with the Columbia County Supervisor of Elections; and directs the Clerk to publish Notice of the Election. Ms. Moses seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed.**

<b>Mr. Jefferson</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Ms. Moses</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Hill</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Greene</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mayor Witt</b>	<b>Aye</b>

Prior to City Council Resolution No. 2020-100 being read Stew Lilker addressed Council regarding concerns with the Charter Review process.

7. City Council Resolution No. 2020-100, if adopted, will call for an election to be held on November 3, 2020, for the submission of eight (8) proposed amendments to the City Charter related to the recommendations of the City's Charter Review Board; and directs the City Clerk to coordinate arrangements for said election with the Columbia County Supervisor of Elections; and directs the publication of a Notice of the Election. **Ms. Moses made a motion to adopt City Council Resolution No. 2020-100, calling for an election to be held on November 3, 2020, for the submission of eight (8) proposed amendments to the City Charter related to the recommendations of the City's Charter Review Board; and directs the City Clerk to coordinate arrangements for said election with the Columbia County Supervisor of Elections; and directs the publication of a Notice of the Election. Mr. Greene seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed.**

<b>Ms. Moses</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Greene</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Jefferson</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Hill</b>	<b>Nay</b>
<b>Mayor Witt</b>	<b>Aye</b>

11. DEPARTMENTAL ADMINISTRATION

- A. Discussion regarding backup for Communications Media Technology for City meetings

Council concurred to publically notice the alternate backup plan for meetings should Zoom experience a failure.

12. COMMENTS BY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mr. Greene requested, out of an abundance of caution, for the City Attorney to provide the section of the charter that designates the City Attorney as a Charter Officer.

Mr. Koberlein stated it is in Section 603.

13. ADJOURNMENT

**All matters having been handled, the meeting adjourned at 7:08 p.m. on a motion made and duly seconded.**

Audrey Sikes, MMC City Clerk