

The City Council in and for the citizens of the City of Lake City, Florida, met in Regular Session, on September 6, 2022 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.
Eugene Jefferson
C. Todd Sampson
Frederick Koberlein, Jr.
Paul Dyal
Chief Gerald Butler
Audrey Sikes

City Attorney
City Manager
Sergeant-at-Arms
City Clerk

PROCLAMATIONS – None

MINUTES

- 1. August 15, 2022 Special Called City Council Meeting
- 2. August 15, 2022 Regular Session

Mr. Sampson made a motion to approve the August 15, 2022 Special Called and Regular Session minutes as presented. Mr. Hill seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Sampson made a motion to approve the agenda with the removal of Item#18. The motion died due to lack of second.

Mr. Sampson made a motion to approve the agenda with moving Item#18 as the first item to be discussed. Mr. Hill seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – PERSONS WISHING TO ADDRESS COUNCIL – None

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

3. Permit application from Columbia High School to hold the CHS Homecoming Parade on Friday, October 14, 2022, from 1:00 P.M. until 5:00 P.M. The parade will start at 3:00 P.M. All supporting documents including certificate of insurance have been provided.

Mr. Sampson made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Mr. Hill seconded the motion and the motion approved unanimously on a voice vote.

18. Discussion and Possible Action: Terms and conditions City Manager Contract (Presenter: Mayor Stephen Witt)

Mr. Sampson read from a written script, which is attached as Exhibit A. Mr. Sampson asked for the next City Council meeting, resolutions to be included authorizing investigations by the Council of the following: 1) the recent unilateral closing of the City for four hours by Interim Manager Paul Dyal; 2) the failure of both the City Manager and HR Director to determine if they violated the City personnel policy, by not advertising and requesting applications for the vacant Assistant City Manager position, and not having the newly hired assistant city manager fill out an application or have his background checked; 3) the treatment of certain female City employees by the Interim City Manager and the HR Director.

Mr. Sampson made a motion for reconsideration on the motion to hire Paul Dyal as City Manager of the City of Lake City, pending a complete vetting, including comprehensive background check and a mandatory credit check. The motion died due to lack of second.

Mayor Witt, Mr. Hill and Mr. Jefferson all spoke in support of City Manager Paul Dyal.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Sylvester Warren; Chevella Young; Ricky Jernigan; Mike Osborn; Glennel Bowden

Mr. Hill supported the recommendation by Ms. Young to wait until the full council is seated in November to set the terms and conditions for the contract for Mr. Dyal.

Mayor Witt recommended for any decision on pay for Mr. Dyal to be made retroactive to now if the contract terms and conditions were not decided until the full council is seated.

Mr. Hill made a motion to retroactive the salary of Mr. Dyal as presented by Mayor Witt when the terms and conditions for the contract are set by the full council.

Attorney Koberlein stated he would have to look at FS 218 as it relates to retroactive pay for Mr. Dyal. He proposed two options to the members: increase the salary temporarily until further notice or leave as is until the full council is seated.

Mr. Hill made a motion to leave Mr. Dyal's salary as is until there is a full Council. Mr. Jefferson seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.

Mr. Hill	Aye
Mr. Jefferson	Aye
Mr. Sampson	Aye
Mayor Witt	Aye

FIRE ASSESSMENT/BUDGET HEARINGS

At this time Mayor Witt closed the regular session and opened a public hearing on the Proposed Fire Protection Assessment Rates for Fiscal Year beginning October 1, 2022. Mayor Witt asked if anyone wanted to be heard regarding the Proposed Fire Protection Assessment Rates for Fiscal Year beginning October 1, 2022. No one asked to be heard regarding the Proposed Fire Protection Assessment Rates for Fiscal Year beginning October 1, 2022, therefore Mayor Witt closed the public hearing.

4. City Council Resolution No. 2022-106 - A resolution of the City Council of the City of Lake City, Florida, constituting the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Annual Fire Assessment Resolution, relating to the provision of fire protection services, facilities and programs in the City of Lake City, Florida; reimposing Fire Protection Assessments against assessed property located within the City of Lake City for the Fiscal Year beginning October 1, 2022; approving the rates of assessment; approving the final assessment roll; confirming and supplementing the 2022 preliminary rate resolution; providing for severability; and providing an effective date. **Mr. Jefferson made a motion to approve City Council Resolution No. 2022-106, constituting the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Annual Fire Assessment Resolution, relating to the provision of fire protection services, facilities and programs in the City of Lake City, Florida; reimposing Fire Protection Assessments against assessed property located within the City of Lake City for the Fiscal Year beginning October 1, 2022; approving the rates of assessment; approving the final assessment roll, and confirming and supplementing the 2022 preliminary rate resolution. Mr. Hill seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.**

Mr. Jefferson	Aye
Mr. Hill	Aye
Mr. Sampson	Aye
Mayor Witt	Aye

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 2022-2023 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 ask that all speakers identify themselves by name and address. Mayor Witt stated the Finance Director would provide a summary of the budget process and address those items essential to compliance with the State of Florida Truth In Millage (TRIM) requirements.

Finance Director Donna Duncan stated there is description in the Sales Tax Bond fund that says it is surplus for the Safer Grant Fund. She reported this is actually a Legislative Appropriation and should be stated as such. She would like to change this in the budget.

Finance Director Donna Duncan reported the City Council proposes a tentative millage rate of 4.9000 mills and tentative capital and operating budget of \$77,974,561 for fiscal year 2022-2023. She stated Council action tonight constitutes the "tentative" budget hearing as required by state TRIM criteria and

was announced to the General Public by TRIM notices mailed by the Columbia County Property Appraiser on August 15, 2022. Ms. Duncan reported during this hearing, the following agenda will be addressed:

- The Council will discuss the 2022-2023 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. 2022-095.
- The Council will adopt Millage Resolution No. 2022-095 on first reading.
- The City Attorney will read, by title, Budget Resolution No. 2022-096.
- The Council will adopt Budget Resolution No. 2022-096 on first reading.

Mayor Witt declared the “Tentative Budget Hearing” open for discussion for public input followed by discussion by the City Council. With no public comment, or discussion by Council, Mayor Witt closed the public hearing.

Mayor Witt asked the Finance Director to state for the record 1) the taxing authority, 2) the proposed millage rate to be adopted, 3) the rolled-back millage rate, and 4) 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, proposed a tentative tax on all property located within the City of Lake City, Florida, at the rate of 4.9000 mills for the fiscal year 2022-2023 operating budget. The current year proposed operating millage rate is an 8.44% increase from the 4.5185 rolled-back millage rate as defined by Florida Statutes and represents no change from the previous year’s millage rate of 4.9000 mills.

5. City Council Resolution No. 2022-095 - A resolution of the City Council of the City of Lake City, Florida, adopting a millage rate for the Levy of Ad Valorem Taxes for the City for the Fiscal Year 2022-2023; and providing an effective date. **Mr. Jefferson made a motion to approve City Council Resolution No. 2022-095, on first reading, adopting a millage rate for the Levy of Ad Valorem Taxes for the City for the Fiscal Year 2022-2023. Mr. Hill seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.**

Mr. Jefferson	Aye
Mr. Hill	Aye
Mr. Sampson	Aye
Mayor Witt	Aye

6. City Council Resolution No. 2022-096 - A resolution of the City Council of the City of Lake City, Florida, adopting the Budget for the Fiscal Year 2022-2023; and providing for an effective date. **Mr. Jefferson made a motion to approve City Council Resolution No. 2022-096, on first reading, adopting the Budget for the Fiscal Year 2022-2023. Mr. Hill seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.**

Mr. Jefferson	Aye
Mr. Hill	Aye
Mr. Sampson	Aye
Mayor Witt	Aye

Mayor Witt asked if anyone wanted to be heard regarding the budget for fiscal year 2021-2022. No one asked to be heard therefore Mayor Witt closed the public hearing.

Ms. Duncan announced this would probably be her last year performing the budget, or anything financial, as she thinks she has decided to retire on October 14, 2022.

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. 2022-2230. City Council Ordinance No. 2022-2230 was read by title. Mayor Witt asked if anyone wanted to be heard regarding City Council Ordinance No. 2022-2230. No one asked to speak on City Council Ordinance No. 2022-2230, therefore Mayor Witt closed the public hearing.

7. City Council Ordinance No. 2022-2230 (final reading) - An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Lake City, Florida, amending the City Code related to Code Enforcement; providing for supplemental procedures to the Code Enforcement process; providing for conflicts; providing for severability; providing for codification; and providing an effective date. **Mr. Hill made a motion to approve City Council Ordinance No. 2022-2230, on final reading, amending the City Code related to Code Enforcement, and providing for supplemental procedures to the Code Enforcement process. Mr. Jefferson seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.**

Mr. Hill	Aye
Mr. Jefferson	Aye
Mr. Sampson	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. 2022-2231. City Council Ordinance No. 2022-2231 was read by title. Mayor Witt asked if anyone wanted to be heard regarding City Council Ordinance No. 2022-2231. No one asked to speak on City Council Ordinance No. 2022-2231, therefore Mayor Witt closed the public hearing.

8. City Council Ordinance No. 2022-2231 (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 less than ten contiguous acres of land, pursuant to an application, Z 22-05, by the property owner of said acreage; providing for rezoning from Commercial General

(CG) to Commercial Central Business District (C-CBD) of the City of Lake City, Florida; providing severability; repealing all ordinances in conflict; and providing an effective date. **Mr. Jefferson made a motion to approve City Council Ordinance No. 2022-2231, on final reading, amending the Official Zoning Atlas of the City of Lake City Land Development Regulations, as amended; relating to the rezoning of less than ten contiguous acres of land, pursuant to an application, Z 22-05, by the property owner of said acreage, and providing for rezoning from Commercial General (CG) to Commercial Central Business District (C-CBD) of the City of Lake City, Florida. Mr. Hill seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.**

Mr. Jefferson	Aye
Mr. Hill	Aye
Mr. Sampson	Aye
Mayor Witt	Aye

Other Items – None

Resolutions

- 9. City Council Resolution No. 2022-090 - A resolution of the City Council of the City of Lake City, Florida, awarding a project to SGS Contracting Services, Inc.; providing for the rehabilitation of Saint Margarets Wastewater Treatment Facility; providing for the execution of a contract; providing for a total cost not-to-exceed \$2,173,300.00; and providing an effective date. **Mr. Jefferson made a motion to approve City Council Resolution No. 2022-090, awarding a project to SGS Contracting Services, Inc.; providing for the rehabilitation of Saint Margarets Wastewater Treatment Facility; providing for the execution of a contract, and providing for a total cost not-to-exceed \$2,173,300.00. Mr. Hill seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.**

Mr. Jefferson	Aye
Mr. Hill	Aye
Mr. Sampson	Aye
Mayor Witt	Aye

- 10. City Council Resolution No. 2022-097 - A resolution of the City Council of the City of Lake City, Florida, awarding a contract to B&B Contractors of Florida, Inc.; providing for traffic signal and signage maintenance within the City; and providing an effective date. **Mr. Hill made a motion to approve City Council Resolution No. 2022-097, awarding a contract to B&B Contractors of Florida, Inc.; providing for traffic signal and signage maintenance within the City. Mr. Jefferson seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.**

Mr. Hill	Aye
Mr. Jefferson	Aye
Mr. Sampson	Aye
Mayor Witt	Aye

11. City Council Resolution No. 2022-098 - A resolution of the City Council of the City of Lake City, Florida, ratifying the voice vote of the City Council and authorizing the filing of a Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program Application; providing for the development of a remote-control car (RC) track at the Richardson Community Center and playground renovation; providing for conflicts; and providing for an effective date.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Sylvester Warren

Mr. Sampson requested an update on the grant application for Grandview and Faith Road, the CDBG for Wilson, and the CDBG for Patterson Street be placed on the next agenda.

No official action was taken on City Council Resolution No. 2022-098.

12. City Council Resolution No. 2022-100 - A resolution of the City Council of the City of Lake City, Florida, authorizing the write-off of delinquent utility accounts through September 30, 2020; finding the delinquent utility accounts to be uncollectable; and providing an effective date. **Mr. Hill made a motion to approve City Council Resolution No. 2022-100, authorizing the write-off of delinquent utility accounts through September 30, 2020, and finding the delinquent utility accounts to be uncollectable. Mr. Jefferson seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.**

Mr. Hill	Aye
Mr. Jefferson	Aye
Mr. Sampson	Aye
Mayor Witt	Aye

13. City Council Resolution No. 2022-101 - A resolution of the City Council of the City of Lake City, Florida, authorizing the execution of the Agreement for Animal Control and Animal Care Services with the Lake City - Columbia County Humane Society, Inc.; and providing for an effective date. **Mr. Hill made a motion to approve City Council Resolution No. 2022-101, authorizing the execution of the Agreement for Animal Control and Animal Care Services with the Lake City - Columbia County Humane Society, Inc. Mr. Sampson seconded the motion.**

Mr. Koberlein reported the contract was updated this afternoon, with a change to costs under paragraph seven from \$40.00 to \$60.00; as well as including an appropriations provision.

A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.

Mr. Hill **Aye**
Mr. Sampson **Aye**
Mr. Jefferson **Aye**
Mayor Witt **Aye**

14. City Council Resolution No. 2022-102 - A resolution of the City Council of Lake City, Florida, authorizing the execution of Task Assignment One with Passero Associates, LLC, for professional services for the realignment of Taxiway C at the Lake City Gateway Airport; providing for a total cost not-to-exceed \$221,200.00; and providing for an effective date. **Mr. Hill made a motion to approve City Council Resolution No. 2022-102, authorizing the execution of Task Assignment One with Passero Associates, LLC, for professional services for the realignment of Taxiway C at the Lake City Gateway Airport, and providing for a total cost not-to-exceed \$221,200.00. Mr. Sampson seconded the motion.**

PUBLIC COMMENT: Brad Wente with Passero Associates, LLC, reported this was the FAA Project of the Year.

A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.

Mr. Hill **Aye**
Mr. Sampson **Aye**
Mr. Jefferson **Aye**
Mayor Witt **Aye**

15. City Council Resolution No. 2022-104 - A resolution of the City Council of the City of Lake City, Florida, authorizing the execution of Task Assignment Number Ten to the continuing contract with Jones Edmunds & Associates, Inc., for professional services assisting the City with the State Road 47 and Interstate 75 Improvement Project; providing for the connection of septic tanks to the project; providing for the payment for the professional services and assistance at a not to exceed cost of \$76,100.00; and providing an effective date. **Mr. Jefferson made a motion to approve City Council Resolution No. 2022-104, authorizing the execution of Task Assignment Number Ten to the continuing contract with Jones Edmunds & Associates, Inc., for professional services assisting the City with the State Road 47 and Interstate 75 Improvement Project; providing for the connection of septic tanks to the project, and providing for the payment for the professional services and assistance at a not to exceed cost of \$76,100.00. Mr. Hill seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.**

Mr. Jefferson **Aye**
Mr. Hill **Aye**
Mr. Sampson **Aye**
Mayor Witt **Aye**

16. City Council Resolution No. 2022-105 - A resolution of the City Council of the City of Lake City, Florida, granting a utility easement to Florida Power & Light Company to provide underground electric utility facilities for the Lake City Fire Station #2; and providing for an effective date. **Mr. Jefferson made a motion to approve City Council Resolution No. 2022-105, granting a utility easement to Florida Power & Light Company to provide underground electric utility facilities for the Lake City Fire Station #2. Mr. Sampson seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.**

Mr. Jefferson	Aye
Mr. Sampson	Aye
Mr. Hill	Aye
Mayor Witt	Aye

17. City Council Resolution No. 2022-107 - A resolution of the City Council of Lake City, Florida, Health; providing for the execution of a revised Memorandum of Agreement with the Justice System Partners; providing for researching methods to reduce repeated interactions between Law Enforcement and individuals who have severe mental health and substance abuse disorders; providing for the identification of ways to optimize the use of crisis stabilization units and post-discharge supports; providing for the rescission of City Council Resolution No. 2022-058 relating to a Memorandum of Agreement with the Institute for Justice Research and Development at Florida State University and Meridian Behavioral Health; providing for conflict; and providing for an effective date. **Mr. Jefferson made a motion to approve City Council Resolution No. 2022-107, providing for the execution of a revised Memorandum of Agreement with the Justice System Partners; providing for researching methods to reduce repeated interactions between Law Enforcement and individuals who have severe mental health and substance abuse disorders; providing for the identification of ways to optimize the use of crisis stabilization units and post-discharge supports, and providing for the rescission of City Council Resolution No. 2022-058 relating to a Memorandum of Agreement with the Institute for Justice Research and Development at Florida State University and Meridian Behavioral Health. Mr. Hill seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.**

Mr. Jefferson	Aye
Mr. Hill	Aye
Mr. Sampson	Aye
Mayor Witt	Aye

Other Items

18. Discussion and Possible Action: Terms and conditions City Manager Contract (Presenter: Mayor Stephen Witt)

This item was moved to the top of the agenda.

DEPARTMENTAL ADMINISTRATION – None

COMMENTS BY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mayor Witt announced upcoming dates of interest:

Monday, September 19 5:45 PM Canvassing Board Meeting

6:00 PM City Council Meeting – Final Budget Hearing

Monday, November 21 City Council Meeting - Swearing in of new Council Members

Mr. Dyal responded to comments made earlier in the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

All matters having been handled, the meeting adjourned at 7:02 PM on a motion made and duly seconded.

Stephen M. Witt, Mayor/Council Member

Audrey Sikes, City Clerk