

The City Council in and for the citizens of the City of Lake City, Florida, met in Regular Session, on April 15, 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 – Council Member Ricky Jernigan

ROLL CALL

Mayor/Council Member
City Council

Stephen M. Witt
Jake Hill, Jr. – absent
Chevella Young – absent
Ricky Jernigan
James Carter
Clay Martin
Dee Johnson
Chief Gerard Butler
Audrey Sikes

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Due to not having a full council, Items # 6, 7, and 16 were removed from the agenda. **Mr. Carter made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Mr. Jernigan seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.**

PROCLAMATIONS

- 1. Youth Leadership Week - April 24-30, 2024

Mayor Witt presented the Youth Leadership Week Proclamation to Victoria and Michael Coker.

- 2. National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week - April 14-20, 2024

Mayor Witt read this proclamation. No one in attendance to accept.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – PERSONS WISHING TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

- Mary Carter and Sylvester Warren
- Angel Martin
- Linda Andrews
- Glenel Bowden
- Sylvester Warren
- John Price

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

3. December 27, 2023 Special Called City Council Meeting Minutes
4. April 1, 2024 Regular Session Minutes

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

PRESENTATIONS – None

OLD BUSINESS

Ordinances – None

Other Items

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

PUBLIC COMMENT: Sylvester Warren; Glenel Bowden

Mr. Jernigan spoke in favor of keeping the schedule as presented.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Susan Phillips

6. Update and Direction from Council: Paul Dyal's Severance Package (Interim City Manager Dee Johnson)

This Item was removed during approval of agenda.

7. Discussion and Possible Action: Remaining ARPA Funds (Jake Hill, Jr.)

This Item was removed during approval of agenda.

NEW BUSINESS

Ordinances

8. City Council Ordinance No. 2024-2271 (first reading) - An ordinance of the City of Lake City, Florida, relating to compensation of the mayor and members of the City Council; amending Article II Section 2-53 of the City Code of Ordinances; providing definitions; providing for compensation amounts; providing for procedures to adjust compensation amounts; providing direction for codification of this ordinance; repealing all ordinances in conflict; providing for severability; and providing for an effective date.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Glenel Bowden; Sylvester Warren

Mr. Carter made a motion to approve City Council Ordinance No. 2024-2271 on first reading.

Mr. Jernigan spoke in opposition of Ordinance 2024-2271.

Mayor Witt seconded the motion.

Mr. Carter spoke in support of Ordinance 2024-2271.

A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.

Mr. Carter	Aye
Mayor Witt	Aye
Mr. Jernigan	Nay

9. City Council Ordinance No. 2024-2272 (first reading) - An ordinance of the City of Lake City, Florida, amending the text of the City of Lake City Land Development Regulations, as amended; pursuant to an application, LDR 24-01, relating to an amendment to the text of the Land Development Regulations; providing for amending Subsection 13.11.3 entitled "Action on Site and Development Plan," concerning providing notice and hearings for consideration of site and development plans; providing severability; repealing all ordinances in conflict; and providing an effective date. **Mr. Jernigan made a motion to approve City Council Ordinance No. 2024-2272 on first reading. Mr. Carter seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.**

Mr. Jernigan	Aye
Mr. Carter	Aye
Mayor Witt	Aye

Open Quasi-Judicial Proceeding

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

Preliminary Matters (Attorney Clay Martin):

10. **The City Attorney shall read the ordinance by title.**
City Council Ordinance No. 2024-2280 (first reading) - An ordinance of the City of Lake City, Florida, pursuant to petition No. ANX 24-02, 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. (Victory Land Holdings, LLC).

Mr. Martin asked if anyone in the audience wished to speak to this ordinance, there were none.

11. 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.

Mr. Carter	No
Mr. Jernigan	No
Mayor Witt	No

At this time Attorney Martin read the ordinance by title only.

12. Swearing in of applicant/appellant, staff and all witnesses collectively by City Attorney.

Mr. Martin swore in Growth Management Director Dave Young.

13. Clerk should take custody of exhibits.

Mr. Young submitted Exhibit 1 via electronic copy (attached to minutes).

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

B. Presentation of application by applicant.

C. Presentation of evidence by city staff.

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

E. Public comments.

F. Cross examination of parties by party participants.

G. Questions of parties by City Council.

Mr. Jernigan confirmed the location of the parcel with Mr. Young.

H. Closing comments by parties.

I. Instruction on law by attorney.

J. Discussion and action by City Council.

Close Quasi – Judicial Hearing

Mr. Carter made a motion to approve City Council Ordinance No. 2024-2280 on first reading. Mr. Jernigan seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.

Mr. Carter	Aye
Mr. Jernigan	Aye
Mayor Witt	Aye

- 14. City Council Ordinance No. 2024-2281 (first reading) - An ordinance of the City of Lake City, Florida, relating to activities interfering with public safety and public roads; repealing Ordinance 2021-2183 in its entirety; repealing Ordinance 2022-2220 in its entirety; amending Chapter 98, Article V Section 98-70 through section 98-73 of the City of Lake City Code of Ordinances; providing direction for codification of this ordinance; repealing all ordinances in conflict; providing for severability; and providing for an effective date.

Mr. Martin clarified for members this ordinance repeals the City’s law that governs the issues with panhandling at intersections, as the current ordinance is not in compliance with the state of the law.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Sylvester Warren

Mr. Jernigan made a motion to approve City Council Ordinance No. 2024-2281 on first reading. Mr. Carter seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.

Mr. Jernigan	Aye
Mr. Carter	Aye
Mayor Witt	Aye

Other Items

- 15. Informational Purposes Only - City Attorney Folds Walker, LLC invoice for February 2024

DEPARTMENTAL ADMINISTRATION

- 16. 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)

This was removed during approval of the agenda.

COMMENTS BY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mr. Carter reported receiving citizen phone calls regarding the lawn care and maintenance at Memorial and Oak Lawn Cemeteries. Mr. Johnson provided an update, and reported with guidance from members, the City would solicit a contract for cemetery maintenance and mowing. Mayor Witt concurred.

Mr. Jernigan mentioned new businesses in Lake City, Crumb & Crust Bakery, and Kiki's Sweets, and also reported the Life South Blood Bank needed donations.

Mr. Carter confirmed with Community Programs Director Terri Phillips the details of the Multicultural Event taking place next weekend. The event will take place from 11:00 AM until 7:00 PM, with over 50 vendors and 22 food trucks.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Carter made a motion to adjourn at 7:04 PM. Mr. Jernigan seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

Stephen M. Witt, Mayor/Council Member

Audrey Sikes, City Clerk