

The City Council in and for the citizens of the City of Lake City, Florida, met in Regular Session, on September 16, 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 James Carter

#### ROLL CALL

Mayor/Council Member  
City Council

Stephen M. Witt  
Jake Hill, Jr.  
Chevella Young  
Ricky Jernigan  
James Carter  
Clay Martin  
Don Rosenthal  
Chief Gerald Butler  
Audrey Sikes

City Attorney  
City Manager  
Sergeant-at-Arms  
City Clerk

#### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Witt reported Item #15 would be heard before Item #3. **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.**

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – PERSONS WISHING TO ADDRESS COUNCIL – Heard after Budget Hearing

#### BUDGET HEARING

At this time Mayor Witt opened a public hearing to accept input from all interested parties relative to the discussion, consideration, and final approval of the City's 2024-2025 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 Angie Moore reported The City Council proposes a final millage rate of 5.2410 mills and a final capital and operating budget of \$75,233,556 for fiscal year 2024-2025. 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 12, 2024. Mrs. Moore reported during this hearing, the following agenda will be addressed:

- The Council will discuss the 2024-2025 millage and operating budget and allow citizen input as appropriate.

- The Council will direct announcement of the final millage rate proposed for adoption and of any increase, decrease, or no change.
- The City Attorney will read, by title, Millage Resolution No. 2024-105.
- The Council will adopt Millage Resolution No. 2024-105 on final reading.
- The City Attorney will read, by title, Budget Resolution No. 2024-106.
- The Council will adopt Budget Resolution No. 2024-106 on final reading.

**Mayor Witt declared the “Final Budget Hearing” open for discussion for public input followed by discussion by the City Council.**

Mayor Witt asked the Finance Director to state for the record 1) the taxing authority, 2) the 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 Angie Moore stated the City Council of the City of Lake City, as Taxing Authority, proposes a tentative tax on all property located within the City of Lake City, Florida, at the rate of 5.2410 mills for the fiscal year 2024-2025 operating budget. She reported the current year proposed operating millage rate is an 11.91% increase from the 4.6831 rolled-back millage rate as defined by Florida Statutes.

1. City Council Resolution No. 2024-105 - A resolution of the City of Lake City, Florida, adopting the Millage Rate and Final Levy of Ad Valorem Taxes for Fiscal Year 2024-2025; making certain findings of fact in support of the City adopting said millage rate and final levy of ad valorem taxes; repealing all prior resolutions in conflict; and providing an effective date. This resolution was for a millage rate of 5.2410 mills. **Mr. Jernigan made a motion to approve City Council Resolution No. 2024-105. Mayor Witt seconded the motion.**

PUBLIC COMMENT: Glenel Bowden; Sylvester Warren; Chris Maas

Mr. Hill spoke in support of a budget at a lower rate.

Mr. Jernigan spoke in support of the budget presented.

Mayor Witt spoke in support of the budget presented.

Ms. Young spoke in support of reviewing the proposed budget.

Ms. Taylor presented the option to stay at the current rate of 4.9000 mills and to use reserves to make up the difference.

Mr. Carter spoke in opposition of an increase.

Mr. Rosenthal spoke on the importance of avoiding deficit spending.

**A roll call vote was taken and the motion failed.**

<b>Mr. Jernigan</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mayor Witt</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Hill</b>	<b>Nay</b>
<b>Ms. Young</b>	<b>Nay</b>
<b>Mr. Carter</b>	<b>Nay</b>

**Mr. Jernigan made a motion to approve City Council Resolution No. 2024-105 at the millage rate of 4.9000 mils. Mr. Hill seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.**

<b>Mr. Jernigan</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Hill</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Ms. Young</b>	<b>Nay</b>
<b>Mr. Carter</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mayor Witt</b>	<b>Nay</b>

2. City Council Resolution No. 2024-106 - A resolution of the City of Lake City, Florida, adopting the Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2024-2025; making certain findings of fact in support of the City adopting said Final Budget; repealing all prior resolutions in conflict; and providing an effective date. **Mr. Carter made a motion to approve City Council Resolution No. 2024-106. Mr. Jernigan seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.**

<b>Mr. Carter</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Jernigan</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Hill</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Ms. Young</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mayor Witt</b>	<b>Nay</b>

**Mayor Witt closed the public hearing**

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – PERSONS WISHING TO ADDRESS COUNCIL**

- Betty Goggins
- Sylvester Warren
- Glenel Bowden

**NEW BUSINESS**

Resolutions

15. City Council Resolution No. 2024-107 - A resolution of the City of Lake City, Florida, rescinding Resolution 2024-025; making findings of fact in support thereof; declaring a Moratorium on the acceptance and/or approval of

applications for the renaming of Public Ways and Private Ways by the City Manager; making findings of fact in support thereof; providing for conflicts; providing for severability; providing for an effective date.(Presley Lane to NE Railroad St) (Council Member Ricky Jernigan)

PUBLIC COMMENT: Bernice Presley; Sylvester Warren; Erica Mayo

Mr. Jernigan explained his reasoning for sponsoring this resolution for council consideration.

**Mr. Jernigan made a motion to approve City Council Resolution No. 2024-107. Ms. Young seconded the motion.**

Members discussed the topic and expressed their support or opposition on the matter.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Odell Anderson Lenora

**A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.**

<b>Mr. Jernigan</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Ms. Young</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Hill</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Carter</b>	<b>Nay</b>
<b>Mayor Witt</b>	<b>Nay</b>

At this time Mayor Witt recessed the meeting for a 10-minute break from 7:14 PM – 7:24 PM.

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

- 3. Minutes - August 19, 2024 Regular Session
- 4. Minutes - August 21, 2024 Council Budget Workshop
- 5. Minutes - August 22, 2024 Council Budget Workshop
- 6. Minutes - September 3, 2024 Workshop
- 7. City Council Resolution No. 2024-055 - A resolution of the City of Lake City, Florida, approving that certain amendment to the lease agreement with Champion Home Builders, Inc., a Delaware Corporation, as successor in interest to Homes of Merit, Inc., a Florida Corporation, to extend the lease for one (1) year; making certain findings of fact in support of the City approving said amendment; 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 amendment; repealing all prior resolutions in conflict; and providing an effective date.

8. City Council Resolution No. 2024-108 - A resolution of the City of Lake City, Florida, approving that certain continuing contract agreement between the City and North Florida Professional Services, Inc., a Florida Corporation, for engineering assessments, project development, design, permitting, construction monitoring, and other related services; making certain findings of fact in support of the City approving said 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.
9. City Council Resolution No. 2024-109 - A resolution of the City of Lake City, Florida, approving that certain Amendment No. 3 to Agreement No. WG057 between the City and State of Florida Department of Environmental Protection, recognizing said amendment provides; recognizing said amendment provides for an extension of time for completing SR47/I-75 Wastewater Improvements and an extension thereof to the Casey Jones RV Park; recognizing said amendment updates other provisions of said agreement; recognizing said amendment updates other provisions of said agreement; making certain findings of fact in support of the City approving amendment; recognizing the authority of the Mayor to execute and bind the City to said amendment; directing the Mayor to execute and bind the City to said amendment; repealing all prior resolutions in conflict; and providing an effective date.
10. City Council Resolution No. 2024-110 - A resolution of the City of Lake City, Florida, authorizing Task Assignment Number One pursuant to the continuing contract with Toco Engineering, LLC, a Florida Limited Liability Company; providing for engineering services to develop a skate park and a master plan for Young's Park; making certain findings of fact in support of the City approving said Task Assignment; recognizing the authority of the Mayor to execute and bind the City to said Task Assignment; authorizing the City Manager with the consent of the City Attorney to make minor changes to the scope of work of the Task Assignment provided such changes do not increase the quoted price in the Task Assignment; repealing all prior resolutions in conflict; and providing an effective date.
11. City Council Resolution No. 2024-112 - A resolution of the City of Lake City, Florida, approving that certain agreement between the City and the United States Department of Transportation Federal Aviation Administration for the administration of Federal Grant Funds arising from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law - Airport Infrastructure Grant Project Number 3-12-0039-031-2024; making certain findings of fact in support of the City approving said agreement; recognizing the authority of the Mayor to execute and bind the City to said agreement; directing the Mayor, as appropriate, to execute and bind the City to said agreement; repealing all prior resolutions in conflict; and providing an effective date.
12. City Council Resolution No. 2024-113 - A resolution of the City of Lake City, Columbia County, Florida, approving the 2020 Federal Highway Administration Adjusted Urban Area Boundary for the City of Lake City, Florida Urban Area, Florida, and functional classifications for City of Lake City, Florida, as prepared by the Florida Department of Transportation; making certain findings of fact in support of the City approving said

Adjusted Urban Area Boundary; recognizing the authority of the Mayor to execute and bind the City to said Adjusted Urban Area Boundary; directing the Mayor to execute and bind the City to said Adjusted Urban Area Boundary; repealing all prior resolutions in conflict; and providing an effective date.

**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.**

## NEW BUSINESS

### Ordinances

#### **Open Quasi – Judicial Proceeding**

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

#### **Preliminary Matters (Attorney Clay Martin):**

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

13. City Council Ordinance No. 2024-2293 (first reading) - An ordinance of the City of Lake City, Florida, pursuant to Petition No. ANX 24-03 submitted by VYP, LLC, a Florida Limited Liability Company, formerly known as JCP-VYP, LLC, a Florida Limited Liability Company, the owner of said real property, relating to voluntary annexation; making findings of fact in support thereof; 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; providing severability; repealing all ordinances in conflict; and providing an effective date. This property is located on Highway 90 West across from CVS.

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

Ms. Young	None
Mr. Carter	None
Mr. Hill	None
Mr. Jernigan	None
Mayor Witt	None

**Swearing in of applicant/appellant, staff and all witnesses collectively by City Attorney. (None)**

**Clerk should take custody of exhibits.**

Growth Management provided documents attached as Exhibit 1.

Note: All exhibits, diagrams, photographs and similar physical evidence referred to during the testimony or which you would like the Council to consider must be marked for identification and kept by the Clerk for 30 days.

- A. Brief introduction of ordinance by city staff.**
- B. Presentation of application by applicant.**
- C. Presentation of evidence by city staff. (Staff submitted report into evidence)**
- D. Presentation of case by third party intervenors, if any.**
- E. Public comments. (None)**
- F. Cross examination of parties by party participants.**
- G. Questions of parties by City Council.**
- H. Closing comments by parties.**
- I. Instruction on law by attorney.**
- J. Discussion and action by City Council.**

**Mr. Carter made a motion to approve City Council Ordinance No. 2024-2293 on first reading. Mr. Jernigan seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.**

<b>Mr. Carter</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Jernigan</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Hill</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Ms. Young</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mayor Witt</b>	<b>Aye</b>

### Resolutions

- 14. City Council Resolution No. 2024-068 - A resolution of the City of Lake City, Florida, approving that certain second amendment to the amended and restated contract for Collection & Disposal Services for Solid Waste & Recycling between the City and Waste Pro of Florida, Inc., a Florida Corporation; finding said second amendment, among other things, extends said contract; making certain findings of fact in support of the City approving said second amendment; recognizing the authority of the Mayor to execute and bind the City to said second amendment; directing the Mayor to execute and bind the City to said second amendment; repealing all prior resolutions in conflict; and providing an effective date. **Mr. Carter made a motion to approve City Council Resolution No. 2024-068. Mr. Hill seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.**

<b>Mr. Carter</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Hill</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Ms. Young</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Jernigan</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mayor Witt</b>	<b>Aye</b>

PUBLIC COMMENT: Betty Goggins

15. City Council Resolution No. 2024-107 - A resolution of the City of Lake City, Florida, rescinding Resolution 2024-025; making findings of fact in support thereof; declaring a Moratorium on the acceptance and/or approval of applications for the renaming of Public Ways and Private Ways by the City Manager; making findings of fact in support thereof; providing for conflicts; providing for severability; providing for an effective date.(Presley Lane to NE Railroad St) (Council Member Ricky Jernigan)

This item was heard after the Budget Hearing at the beginning of the meeting.

DEPARTMENTAL ADMINISTRATION – None

COMMENTS BY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Council Member James Carter – spoke in support of citizen workshops and the skateboard park.

Council Member Jake Hill, Jr. – None

Council Member Ricky Jernigan – spoke in support of maintaining meeting decorum at meetings.

Council Member Chevella Young – None

Mayor Stephen Witt – None

ADJOURNMENT

**Mr. Jernigan made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:38 PM.**

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Stephen M. Witt, Mayor/Council Member

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Audrey Sikes, City Clerk