

The City Council in and for the citizens of the City of Lake City, Florida, met in Regular Session, on June 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  
Interim City Manager  
Sergeant-at-Arms  
City Clerk

Mayor Witt announced the following statement, “The Police Department will begin conducting weapons screenings upon all persons attending council meetings. This includes all city employees and elected officials with the only exception being law enforcement officers having official business at the meeting. I would like to remind everyone that Florida State Statute 790.06(12)(a)7 prohibits the open carrying of a handgun or the concealed carry of a weapon or firearm into any meeting of the governing body of a county, public school district, municipality, or special district. These screenings will begin at the Tuesday, June 21, 2022 City Council Meeting. The screenings will be conducted by having persons walk through a metal detector or be wanded by a handheld metal detector. All items you wish to accompany you will also be checked for weapons. You will not be required to identify yourself or what business you have at the meeting during the screening process. Any person not clearing the screening will not be allowed to enter the council chambers.”

PROCLAMATIONS – None

#### MINUTES

1. May 16, 2022 Regular Session

**Mr. Hill made a motion to approve the May 16, 2022 regular session minutes as presented. Mr. Jefferson seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.**

#### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

## PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – PERSONS WISHING TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

- Clairmont Ashley
- Barbara Mizell Perry
- Kirsinda Byrd
- Linda Andrews

## APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

2. Permit Application from the Lake City - Columbia County Chamber of Commerce to hold the 4th of July Fireworks Celebration on Monday, July 4, 2022 from 6:00 PM until 10:00 PM. Approval is being sought contingent upon receipt of certificate of insurance.
3. Permit application from George & Warren Foundation, Inc. to hold the Juneteenth Celebration of Freedom Parade on Saturday, June 18, 2022, starting at 6:00 PM. All supporting documents including certificate of insurance have been provided.

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

## PRESENTATIONS – None

## 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. 2022-2224. City Council Ordinance No. 2022-2224 was read by title. Mayor Witt asked if anyone wanted to be heard regarding City Council Ordinance No. 2022-2224. No one asked to speak on City Council Ordinance No. 2022-2224, therefore Mayor Witt closed the public hearing.**

4. City Council Ordinance No. 2022-2224 (final reading) - An ordinance of the City Council of the City of Lake City, Florida, amending the City Code to add a new section number 86-110.17 to Article III, Chapter 86, which provides for the permanent vacating of portion of the right of way for Parcels 02465-106, 02465-107, and 02465-115, as identified by the parcel identification number assigned by the Property Appraiser's Office; all of said lots being located in the Stonegate Park Subdivision as recorded on a plat thereof and recorded in Plat Book 7, Pages 61 and 62, of the public records of Columbia County, Florida; providing for conflicts; providing for severability; providing for codification; and providing for an effective date. **Mr. Jefferson made a motion to adopt City Council Ordinance No. 2022-2224, on final reading, amending the City Code to add a new section number 86-110.17 to Article III, Chapter 86, which provides for the permanent vacating of portion of the right of way for Parcels 02465-106, 02465-107, and 02465-115, as identified by the parcel identification number assigned by the Property Appraiser's Office; all of said lots being located in**

**the Stonegate Park Subdivision as recorded on a plat thereof and recorded in Plat Book 7, Pages 61 and 62, of the public records of Columbia County, Florida. Mr. Sampson seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.**

<b>Mr. Jefferson</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Sampson</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Hill</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mayor Witt</b>	<b>Aye</b>

## OTHER ITEMS

5. Discussion and Possible Action - Fire Pension Board Appointee (Presenter: Mayor Stephen Witt)

Mayor Witt reminded members there was still a need for a Fire Pension Board Appointee.

6. Discussion and Possible Action - Police Officers Pension Board Appointee (Presenter: Mayor Stephen Witt)

Mayor Witt reminded members there was still a need for a Police Officers Pension Board Appointee.

7. Discussion and Possible Action - City Manager Position - Renee Narloch, President of S. Renee Narloch & Associates will participate via Zoom

Ms. Narloch provided a recap of the direction she was given at the onset of the City Manager search process. She also covered the additional direction provided by the City Council members.

Ms. Narloch provided an overview of the three candidates: Andrew Hyatt, John Hannah, and Mel Smigielski.

**Mr. Sampson made a motion to terminate Ms. Narloch and Narloch and Associates effective immediately. Mr. Hill seconded the motion.**

PUBLIC COMMENT: Sylvester Warren, Glenel Bowden, Shawn Holmgren

Mayor Witt spoke against terminating the contract with Ms. Narloch, but stated if members decided to terminate, then they must hire another firm.

Mr. Jefferson inquired what a new firm would do differently.

Mr. Sampson spoke in favor of hiring Colin Baenziger & Associates to take over the City Manager search.

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

<b>Mr. Sampson</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Hill</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Jefferson</b>	<b>Nay</b>
<b>Mayor Witt</b>	<b>Nay</b>

**Mr. Sampson made a motion to terminate Ms. Narloch's contract. Mr. Hill seconded the motion.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT: Glenel Bowden**

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

<b>Mr. Sampson</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Hill</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Jefferson</b>	<b>Nay</b>
<b>Mayor Witt</b>	<b>Nay</b>

**Mr. Sampson made a motion to reconsider the item we just talked about with the termination of Narloch and Associates contract and to hire the Colin Baenziger firm, based on their bid at the time, on an emergency basis. Mr. Hill seconded the motion.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT: Sylvester Warren**

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

<b>Mr. Sampson</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Hill</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Jefferson</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mayor Witt</b>	<b>Aye</b>

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**Ordinances** – None

**Resolutions**

8. City Council Resolution No. 2022-049 - A resolution of the City Council of the City of Lake City, Florida, authorizing the appropriation of a grant to the Annie Mattox Recreation Center, Inc.; providing for improvements to the private park governed by the Annie Mattox Recreation Center, Inc.; providing for severability; providing for conflicts; and providing for an effective date. **Mr. Sampson made a motion to adopt City Council Resolution No. 2022-049, with the inclusion of item 3 B ii as follows: ii: Subject any vendor, volunteer, individual, or entity directly representing the Grantee to a Level 2 screening as described in Florida law, section 435.04, Florida Statutes, prior to the representation**

of the Grantee, authorizing the appropriation of a grant to the Annie Mattox Recreation Center, Inc., and providing for improvements to the private park governed by the Annie Mattox Recreation Center, Inc. Mr. Jefferson seconded the motion.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Glenel Bowden; Lawanda Austin; and Shawn Holmgren.

A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.

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

9. City Council Resolution No. 2022-055 - A resolution of the City Council of the City of Lake City, Florida, authorizing the execution of the State Highway Lighting, Maintenance, and Compensation Agreement Work Order with the State of Florida, Department of Transportation; providing for the terms and conditions of maintenance of the state facilities to be maintained by the City; and establishing an effective date. **Mr. Sampson made a motion to adopt City Council Resolution No. 2022-055, authorizing the execution of the State Highway Lighting, Maintenance, and Compensation Agreement Work Order with the State of Florida, Department of Transportation, and providing for the terms and conditions of maintenance of the state facilities to be maintained by the City. Mr. Jefferson seconded the motion.**

PUBLIC COMMENT: Shawn Holmgren

A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.

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

10. City Council Resolution No. 2022-056 - A resolution of the City Council of the City of Lake City, Florida authorizing the City to join the State of Florida and other local government units in participating in the "Walgreens Settlement"; providing for the Mayor's execution of the Participation Agreement; and providing for an effective date. **Mr. Jefferson made a motion to adopt City Council Resolution No. 2022-056, authorizing the City to join the State of Florida and other local government units in participating in the "Walgreens Settlement," and providing for the Mayor's execution of the Participation Agreement. 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

11. City Council Resolution No. 2022-057 - A resolution of the City Council of the City of Lake City, Florida, authorizing the appropriation of a grant to the Annie Mattox Recreation Center, Inc.; providing for improvements to the private park governed by the Annie Mattox Recreation Center, Inc.; providing for severability; providing for conflicts; and providing for an effective date.

**Per City Attorney Fred Koberlein, resolution not needed as Resolution 2022-049 covers this agreement.**

PUBLIC COMMENT: Al Nelson; Shawn Holmgren; and Sylvester Warren.

12. City Council Resolution No. 2022-058 - A resolution of the City Council of the City of Lake City, Florida, authorizing the execution of a Memorandum of Understanding with the Institute for Justice Research and Development at Florida State University and Meridian Behavioral Health; providing for researching of methods to reduce repeated interactions between law enforcement and individuals who have severe mental health and substance abuse disorders, and to identify ways to optimize the use of crisis stabilization units and post-discharge supports. **Mr. Sampson made a motion to adopt City Council Resolution No. 2022-058, authorizing the execution of a Memorandum of Understanding with the Institute for Justice Research and Development at Florida State University and Meridian Behavioral Health; providing for researching of methods to reduce repeated interactions between law enforcement and individuals who have severe mental health and substance abuse disorders, and to identify ways to optimize the use of crisis stabilization units and post-discharge supports. Mr. Jefferson seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.**

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

#### Other Items

13. Discussion and Possible Action - Designation of Florida League of Cities Voting Delegate (Presenter: Mayor Stephen Witt)

The Florida League of Cities' Annual Conference will be held in Hollywood, Florida on August 11-13, 2022. It is important for each municipality designate one official as "voting delegate" to participate in voting for League leadership and adoption of resolutions that determine the direction of the League.

Members concurred to designate Jake Hill Jr. as their official voting delegate to participate in voting for League leadership, and adoption of resolutions that determine the direction of the League.

14. Discussion and Possible Action: The Northeast Florida League of Cities Board of Directors is allowing all member cities an opportunity to submit one or more applications of a non-profit agency/entity/organization to receive a donation from the Northeast Florida League of Cities. The donation amount is \$350 per eligible agency/entity and if a member city submits more than one application, the \$350 may be split between applicants. (Presenter: Council Member Jake Hill)

Note: Last year the City Council recommended Temez Ruise of the Gifted1OnesCorpo and Columbia County Senior Services as the two non-profit organizations to each receive a \$332 donation from the Northeast Florida League of Cities.

Per Councilmember Jake Hill Jr., Council missed the window this year to donate to a non-profit agency/entity/organization.

DEPARTMENTAL ADMINISTRATION – None

#### COMMENTS BY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mayor Witt announced there would be a Public Safety Memorial on Tuesday, June 7, 2022 at 6:30 PM at the First Baptist Church sanctuary.

Mayor Witt reported per Interim City Manager Paul Dyal, there is need to schedule a workshop to cover the following items: ARPA and CARES Act Funds, Budget, and City Hall. Members concurred to hold the workshop Monday, June 13, 2022 at 6:00 PM.

Mr. Sampson suggested bringing the pier project back for discussion.

Mr. Koberlein confirmed with members, on behalf of the Procurement Department, the RFP Process and how many candidates they wanted to interview for the City Attorney position. Members concurred to interview the top 3 with open interviews and for the council to serve as the evaluation committee.

Mr. Koberlein stated there was need for a litigation session soon to discuss the two lawsuits filed by Befaihtful Coker.

#### ADJOURNMENT

**All matters having been handled, the meeting adjourned at 7:40 PM on a motion made and duly seconded.**

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Stephen M. Witt, Mayor/Council Member

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Audrey Sikes, MMC City Clerk