

The City Council in and for the citizens of the City of Lake City, Florida, met in Regular Session, on August 18, 2025, 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 – Vice Mayor/Council Member Chevella Young

ROLL CALL

Mayor/Council Member
City Council

Noah Walker
Chevella Young
Ricky Jernigan
James Carter
Tammy Harris
Clay Martin
Don Rosenthal
Chief Gerald Butler
Audrey Sikes

City Attorney
City Manager
Sergeant-at-Arms
City Clerk

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Carter made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Ms. Harris seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – PERSONS WISHING TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

- Jake Hill, Jr.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

1. Minutes - July 7, 2025, City Council Workshop
2. Minutes - July 7, 2025, Regular Session
3. City Council Resolution No. 2025-112 - A resolution of the City of Lake City, Florida, approving that certain Amendment to the Agreement between the City and Columbia County Senior Services, Inc., a Florida not for profit corporation; 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 Amendment; directing the Mayor to execute and bind the City to said Amendment; repealing all prior resolutions in conflict; and providing an effective date.

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

NEW BUSINESS

Ordinances

4. City Council Ordinance No. 2025-2323 (first reading) - An ordinance pertaining to buildings, building regulations, contracting, permitting, licensure and insurance within the City of Lake City; repealing existing provisions of City Code; establishing certain uniform codes; establishing permitting fees and requirements; establishing insurance requirements; repealing all ordinances in conflict; providing for severability; and providing for an effective date. **Mr. Carter made a motion to approve City Council Ordinance No. 2025-2323 on first reading. Ms. Harris seconded the motion.**

PUBLIC COMMENT: Don Hollingsworth spoke in opposition of the ordinance.

Growth Management Director Scott Thomason reported this ordinance would correct the City's current fee rate by charging a flat fee instead of a fee based on square footage.

A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.

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| Mr. Carter | Aye |
| Ms. Harris | Aye |
| Ms. Young | Aye |
| Mr. Jernigan | Aye |
| Mayor Walker | Aye |

Resolutions

5. City Council Resolution No. 2025-099 - A resolution of the City of Lake City, Florida, approving that certain update to job position and description for Police Chief; making certain findings of fact in support of the City approving said position and description; directing the City Manager to update the City's Position Descriptions Manual with said revised position and description; repealing all prior resolutions in conflict; and providing an effective date. **Mr. Jernigan made a motion to approve City Council Resolution No. 2025-099. Ms. Young seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.**

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| Mr. Jernigan | Aye |
| Ms. Young | Aye |
| Mr. Carter | Aye |
| Ms. Harris | Aye |
| Mayor Walker | Aye |

6. City Council Resolution No. 2025-105 - A resolution of the City of Lake City, Florida, approving that certain Agreement between the City and Hawkins Water Treatment Group, Inc, a Minnesota Corporation, to supply chemicals for the

City's Water Treatment Plants; 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. **Mr. Carter made a motion to approve City Council Resolution No. 2025-105. Ms. Harris seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.**

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| Mr. Carter | Aye |
| Ms. Harris | Aye |
| Ms. Young | Aye |
| Mr. Jernigan | Aye |
| Mayor Walker | Aye |

7. City Council Resolution No. 2025-114 - A resolution of the City of Lake City, Florida, approving that certain staging area agreement between the City and Clay Electric Cooperative, Inc., a Florida not for profit corporation for acreage at the Lake City Gateway Airport to stage personnel and equipment during responses to natural disasters; 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. **Mr. Jernigan made a motion to approve City Council Resolution No. 2025-114. Mr. Carter seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.**

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| Mr. Jernigan | Aye |
| Mr. Carter | Aye |
| Ms. Young | Aye |
| Ms. Harris | Aye |
| Mayor Walker | Aye |

COMMENTS BY:

City Manager Don Rosenthal – Mr. Rosenthal read from a prepared script, responding to the editorial in the Lake City Reporter.

City Attorney Clay Martin – Mr. Martin reported the Florida League of Cities Annual Conference being beneficial.

City Clerk Audrey Sikes – None

COMMENTS BY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Council Member Chevella Young – Ms. Young reported speaking with other Cities during the Florida League of Cities Annual Conference about who performs ADA remediation within their municipality,

with everyone reporting departments handled their own remediation, not a specific position. She also spoke in support of salary increases for employees who make below \$60,000.00 annually.

Council Member Ricky Jernigan – Mr. Jernigan spoke in support of a 3% salary increase across the board for employees and inquired as to why Mr. Carter and Mayor Walker were opposed.

Council Member James Carter – Mr. Carter spoke in opposition of government covering increases of insurance coverage, and reported he was in opposition of a salary increase this year because there was a large sweep of raises the previous year. He also spoke in support of merit raises.

Council Member Tammy Harris – Ms. Harris reported she would like as a discussion item on the next agenda the topic of the Junkyard located downtown; spoke in opposition of merit spending and asked to put this on the next agenda to remove from the ordinance; reported she had also spoke with other cities at the Florida League of Cities Annual Conference about whom performs ADA remediation in their municipalities and stated the departments handled their own remediation; proposed an incentive that she would like to bring to legislation, Opportunities for At Risk & Incarcerated Youth (provided handouts); she stated she was looking forward to showcasing Lake City when the North East Florida League Dinner Meeting is held here.

Mayor Noah Walker – Mayor Walker reported he was opposed to a 3% salary increase due to the additional \$660,000.00 it adds to the City's budget; informed members of the Community Clean Up being held at Memorial Stadium on August 23, 2025, from 8:00 AM until 12:00 PM; congratulated the Water Department for winning the Medium Public Water System of the Year Award for the second time in a row; informed members of the upcoming Cops Bowl a thon on September 2, 2025, at 3:30 PM; Coffee with a Cop at Panera Bread on August 20, 2025, from 8:30 AM until 10:00 AM; spoke about the great learning experience at the Florida League of Cities Annual Conference; reported a fruitful meeting with Florida Senator Bradley the previous week about some initiatives that the City has in the upcoming legislative session; and congratulated Kat Cammack on the birth of her daughter.

ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business, Mayor Walker adjourned the meeting at 6:42 PM.

Noah Walker, Mayor/Council Member

Audrey Sikes, City Clerk