

The City Council in and for the citizens of the City of Lake City, Florida, met in Workshop, on April 21, 2025, beginning at 5:00 P.M., 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.

## CALL TO ORDER

## 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

## ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

1. FY26 Budget – Receive feedback to questions provided by Finance (Finance Director Angie Taylor Moore)

1. Would you consider increasing the Ad Valorem Millage rate?

Mr. Jernigan	Yes
Ms. Harris	No
Mayor Walker	No, it is a proponent of variable taxes on the ballot
Mr. Carter	No
Ms. Young	No - suggested looking at other avenues

2. Would you consider increasing the Fire Assessment rate?

Ms. Young	Not now, if there is no other way, she would consider
Mr. Carter	Would like to see results of Fire Assessment Study; yes, it is possible
Mayor Walker	Prefers variable taxes; votes no without data showing a substantial need
Ms. Harris	No
Mr. Jernigan	Yes

3. Would you consider implementing a Stormwater Fee?

Mr. Jernigan	Yes
Ms. Harris	No – inquired if there if there were other alternatives
Mayor Walker	No – not without substantial data; prefers variable taxes
Mr. Carter	Maybe – would need to see evidence

Ms. Young            No – if a necessity then she would consider

Per the Finance Director Angie Taylor Moore, the last Stormwater Study was performed in 2017. She inquired as to whether members would be open to have another study performed, members concurred.

4. Please identify the top capital/infrastructure priorities that you believe must be addressed?

Ms. Young            Street repairs; crosswalks  
Mr. Jernigan        Roads; streetlights; Code Enforcement  
Mayor Walker       Neighborhood infrastructure; streetlights; septic/sewer in town; retrofitting buildings for public use; small business incubator  
Ms. Harris           Street infrastructure; street lighting; homeless shelter  
Mr. Jernigan        Roads; streets; sidewalks

5. Are there any new programs or enhancements to existing services, such as parks, recreation, or social services that you believe should be included to improve the quality of life for our residents?

Mr. Jernigan        No  
Ms. Harris           Recreation  
Mayor Walker       Youth activities; enhancements to public parks  
Mr. Carter           Recreation; expanding Youngs and Cambell Park; community dog park  
Ms. Young           Senior programs; youth programs; park enhancements; recreation

6. What initiatives would you support that foster economic development, such as incentivizing local businesses and attracting new investments?

Ms. Young           Deferred to City Manager Rosenthal  
Mr. Carter           Annexations; extending utilities for new areas; tax abatement and partnerships with the Columbia County Chamber of Commerce and the community  
Mayor Walker       Tax abatement; radial tax abatement zones to incentivize the elimination of food deserts; extension of utilities; entrepreneurial business incubators  
Ms. Harris           Annexations and tax cuts  
Mr. Jernigan        Instructed City Manager Rosenthal to devise a plan

## PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Glenel Bowden
- Stew Lilker

ADJOURNMENT

**Having no further business, Mayor Walker adjourned the meeting at 5:45 PM.**

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Noah Walker, Mayor/Council Member

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Audrey Sikes, City Clerk