

The City Council in and for the citizens of the City of Lake City, Florida, met in Regular Session, on March 3, 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 – Mayor Noah Walker

#### 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

- Sylvester Warren

#### PRESENTATIONS

1. Presentation State Lobbyist Services - RFP-007-2025 - Evaluation Committee's Shortlist:

Procurement Director Brenda Karr opened the presentations with a short summary.

- a. The Advocacy Group at Cardenas Partners

Steve Shale and Sarah Suskey provided a brief presentation on the firm.

- b. Sunrise Consulting Group

Andrew Quell provided a brief PowerPoint Presentation on the firm.

- c. Johnson & Blanton

John Johnson and Derek McGee provided a brief PowerPoint Presentation on the firm.

After the presentations, members ranked firms on a written scorecard provided by the Procurement Department. Members ranked firms as follows: 1 being top choice, 2 being second choice, and 3 being last choice.

Upon completion of the scorecards, members read aloud their rankings and provided the original scorecards to Ms. Sikes.

Mr. Jernigan – Sunrise Consulting, Johnson & Blanton, The Advocacy Group  
Ms. Harris – Johnson & Blanton, Sunrise Consulting, The Advocacy Group  
Mr. Carter – Sunrise Consulting, The Advocacy Group, Johnson & Blanton  
Ms. Young – Sunrise Consulting, Johnson & Blanton, The Advocacy Group  
Mayor Walker – The Advocacy Group, Sunrise Consulting, Johnson & Blanton

Scorecards are attached at Exhibit A.

At this time, members took a break, from 6:45 PM – 6:53 PM to allow Ms. Sikes time to calculate the scores.

Once back in session, City Clerk Audrey Sikes reported the total scores.

Sunrise Consulting Group – 7 points (1<sup>st</sup> ranked firm)  
Johnson & Blanton – 11 points (2<sup>nd</sup> ranked firm)  
The Advocacy Group at Cardenas Partners – 12 points (3<sup>rd</sup> ranked firm)

The compiled scores are attached as Exhibit B.

**Mr. Jernigan made a motion to direct staff to negotiate with the top ranked firm based off of the evaluation tabulation by Council. The motion includes authority for staff to negotiate with the second ranked firm should negotiations fail with the top ranked firm. Mr. Carter seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.**

<b>Mr. Jernigan</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Carter</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Ms. Young</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Ms. Harris</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mayor Walker</b>	<b>Aye</b>

## NEW BUSINESS

### Other Items

2. Discussion and Possible Action: Consider appointment of one (1) of the following applicants to serve as the Council Appointed Trustee on the City of Lake City Municipal's Firefighter's Pension Trust Fund Board:

a. Lisa Morris

b. Stephen Witt

**Mr. Carter made a motion to direct staff to come back with a resolution appointing Lisa Morris to serve as the Council Appointed Trustee on the City of Lake City Municipal’s Firefighter’s Pension Trust Fund Board. 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>Ms. Young</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Ms. Harris</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mayor Walker</b>	<b>Aye</b>

DEPARTMENTAL ADMINISTRATION – None

COMMENTS BY CHARTER OFFICERS

City Manager Don Rosenthal – Mr. Rosenthal reported the need for a Budget Workshop in April.

City Attorney Clay Martin – None

City Clerk Audrey Sikes – None

COMMENTS BY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Council Member Chevella Young – None

Council Member Ricky Jernigan – Mr. Jernigan thanked the Boy Scouts for their attendance at the meeting.

Council Member James Carter – Mr. Carter reported publishing informational videos on his Facebook page, and shared he would be sitting down with Directors on Wednesday, March 5, 2025 to gain further knowledge on how things operate.

Council Member Tammy Harris – Ms. Harris inquired where City Manager Don Rosenthal was with hiring an inhouse attorney, to which Mr. Rosenthal reported, he was still working on that.

Mayor Noah Walker – Mayor Walker wished Mrs. Lofton a happy 95<sup>th</sup> birthday and stated he would be reading at Kingdom Culture for Dr. Seuss week this week. He reminded staff to reach out about the Women’s Club and the 90-day extension plan for upkeep; and also asked that Mr. Rosenthal formally follow up with the State Attorney’s Office on the opinion from Cavendish. He also reminded members and the public of upcoming events: Free Community Shred Day, Saturday, March 8, 2025 from 9:00 AM until 12:00 PM, and the City Council Visioning Session (Strategic Planning) on Monday, March 10, 2025 at 6:00 PM.

ADJOURNMENT

**Mayor Walker adjourned the meeting at 7:05 PM.**

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Noah Walker, Mayor/Council Member

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Audrey Sikes, City Clerk