

The City Council in and for the citizens of the City of Lake City, Florida, met in Regular Session, on July 3, 2023 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 Jake Hill, Jr.

## ROLL CALL

Mayor/Council Member  
City Council

Stephen M. Witt  
Jake Hill, Jr.  
C. Todd Sampson  
Chevella Young  
Ricky Jernigan  
Todd Kennon  
Paul Dyal  
Chief Gerald Butler  
Audrey Sikes

City Attorney  
City Manager  
Sergeant-at-Arms  
City Clerk

PROCLAMATIONS – None

INTRODUCTION – Assistant City Manager, Dee Johnson introduced BillieJo Bible as the new Human Resources Director.

## MINUTES

1. June 20, 2023 Regular Session

**Mr. Jernigan made a motion to approve the June 20, 2023 Regular Session minutes as presented. Mr. Hill seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.**

## APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Witt reported due to a scheduling conflict, Sheriff Mark Hunter requested for Item #5 to be moved up on agenda. Mayor Witt suggested placement of Item #5 prior to Item #2. **Mr. Sampson 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 – None

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA – None

## NEW BUSINESS

Resolutions

5. City Council Resolution No. 2023-075 - A resolution of the City Council of the City of Lake City, Florida, authorizing the City and the Lake City Police Department, to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Columbia County Sheriff's Office, and the Columbia County Board of County Commissioners for the purposes of providing Criminal Justice Information Technology Services, Information Exchange, Dispatch Services, and Criminal Justice Agency Oversight.

Note: The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was not provided prior to or at the meeting.

**Mr. Jernigan made a motion to approve City Council Resolution No. 2023-075, authorizing the City and the Lake City Police Department, to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Columbia County Sheriff's Office, and the Columbia County Board of County Commissioners for the purposes of providing Criminal Justice Information Technology Services, Information Exchange, Dispatch Services, and Criminal Justice Agency Oversight. Mr. Sampson seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.**

<b>Mr. Jernigan</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Sampson</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>

## PRESENTATIONS

2. Brooke Frye and Travis George - Tobacco-Free Columbia Partnership (Council Member Ricky Jernigan)

Ms. Frye and Mr. George reported County parks are already tobacco free and encouraged the members to enact an ordinance making City parks tobacco free. The Tobacco Free Partnership would provide signage for the parks.

Ms. Young inquired about enforcement of a tobacco free park. Ms. Frye reported it is socially enforced.

## OLD BUSINESS

Ordinances – None

Resolutions

3. City Council Resolution No. 2023-070 - A resolution of the City Council of the City of Lake City, Florida, rescinding the acceptance of the financial assistance award from the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity for approval of the Lake City Community Development Block Grant for fire suppression improvements at the Lake City Gateway Airport. **Mr. Hill made a motion to approve City Council Resolution No. 2023-070, rescinding the acceptance**

of the financial assistance award from the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity for approval of the Lake City Community Development Block Grant for fire suppression improvements at the Lake City Gateway Airport. Mr. Jernigan seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.

Mr. Hill	Aye
Mr. Jernigan	Aye
Mr. Sampson	Aye
Ms. Young	Aye
Mayor Witt	Aye

4. City Council Resolution No. 2023-074 - A resolution of the City Council of the City of Lake City, Florida, authorizing the execution of an Amendment to Traffic Signal Maintenance and Compensation Agreement with the State of Florida, Department of Transportation; and providing for an effective date. **Mr. Sampson made a motion to approve City Council Resolution No. 2023-074, authorizing the execution of an Amendment to Traffic Signal Maintenance and Compensation Agreement with the State of Florida, Department of Transportation. Mr. Hill seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.**

Mr. Sampson	Aye
Mr. Hill	Aye
Ms. Young	Aye
Mr. Jernigan	Aye
Mayor Witt	Aye

5. City Council Resolution No. 2023-075 - A resolution of the City Council of the City of Lake City, Florida, authorizing the City and the Lake City Police Department, to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Columbia County Sheriff's Office, and the Columbia County Board of County Commissioners for the purposes of providing Criminal Justice Information Technology Services, Information Exchange, Dispatch Services, and Criminal Justice Agency Oversight.

Note: This was heard prior to Item #2.

### Other Items

6. Discussion and Possible Action – Allocate additional funds in the amount of \$40,000.00 for demolition/clean-up of abandoned property or hazardous structures (Council Member Chevella Young)

Ms. Young reported there was currently \$10,000.00 in the Operating Expense Contractual Services budget for Growth Management for the purpose of demolition of hazardous structures. She recommended to increase the Fiscal Year 2023 amount by \$40,000.00, for a total of \$50,000.00 for demolition/clean-

up of abandoned property or hazardous structures. She also would like to have an annual allocation of \$50,000.00 in the budget for these purposes.

**Ms. Young made a motion to amend the budget to reallocate \$40,000.00 from the Growth Management Salary Account (001.55.524010.12) to Operating Expense Contractual Services Account (001.55.524-030.34) for demolition/clean-up of abandoned property or hazardous structures. The motion also authorizes an annual allocation of \$50,000.00 in the budget for these purposes. Mr. Sampson seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.**

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

7. Discussion and Possible Action - City to host the Northeast Florida League Dinner Meeting on Thursday, December 7, 2023 (Council Member Jake Hill)

Mr. Hill reported the Northeast Florida League of Cities alternates the hosting of the Northeast Florida League Dinner Meetings and this year he would like Lake City to host on December 7, 2023. **Mr. Hill made a motion to host the Northeast Florida League Dinner Meeting on Thursday, December 7, 2023. Ms. Young seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.**

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

DEPARTMENTAL ADMINISTRATION – None

#### COMMENTS BY COUNCIL

Mr. Hill announced on August 5, 2023 he would be hosting the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Community Day at Memorial Stadium, from 12:00 – 4:00 P. M.

Mr. Hill expressed concerns regarding diversity at the Lake City Fire Department.

Ms. Young requested monthly updates on City projects including but not limited to the following:

1. Welcome to Lake City sign
2. Sallie Mae Jerry Parking
3. Parking behind the movie theatre
4. Security cameras at Sallie Mae Jerry and Annie Mattox Parks
5. Maintenance on the North end of Marion Street

Ms. Young stated she would get with Ms. Sikes regarding this project list. She asked staff to compile a running project list to track the progress of outstanding items. Ms. Young encouraged members to bring forward any other items they are aware of needing completion. Ms. Young would like a monthly update from the City Attorney, City Manager, Assistant City Manager on outstanding projects.

Mr. Hill expressed concern with recent steam cleaning services of side-walks that stopped at Railroad Street and did not extend down to Bascom Norris and asked Mr. Dyal who paid for those services. Mr. Dyal stated he was unaware of this project and will look into this.

Ms. Young stated it is the responsibility of the city to give further instruction to go all the way down and not stop at Railroad Street and if a business paid for these types of services, the city needs to step in and do the remainder of the street for consistency.

#### ADJOURNMENT

**Mr. Jernigan made a motion to adjourn at 6:25 PM. Mr. Hill seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.**

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Stephen M. Witt, Mayor/Council Member

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Audrey Sikes, City Clerk