

The City Council in and for the citizens of the City of Lake City, Florida, met in Regular Session, on July 18, 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 – Council Member Eugene Jefferson

ROLL CALL

Mayor/Council Member
City Council

City Attorney
Interim City Manager
Sergeant-at-Arms
City Clerk

Stephen M. Witt
Jake Hill, Jr.
Eugene Jefferson
C. Todd Sampson
Frederick Koberlein, Sr.
Paul Dyal – Absent
Chief Gerald Butler
Audrey Sikes

MINUTES

1. July 5, 2022 Regular Session

Mr. Jefferson made a motion to approve the July 5, 2022 regular session minutes as presented. Mr. Hill 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 - None

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA – None

PRESENTATIONS

2. Discussion and Possible Action - Tom Geoffroy, Florida Gas Utility, Hedging of Natural Gas pricing for cost savings to the City of Lake City

Mr. Geoffroy presented a way to mitigate rising energy costs and inflation affecting customers. He, along with Natural Gas Director Steve Brown, recommended hedging gas prices at 75%.

3. City Council Resolution No. 2022-074 - A resolution of the City Council of the City of Lake City, Florida, authorizing the execution of the directive to Execute Financial Hedges with Florida Gas Utility; providing for severability; providing for conflict; and providing for an

effective date. **Mr. Hill made a motion to approve City Council Resolution No. 2022-074, authorizing the execution of the directive to Execute Financial Hedges with Florida Gas Utility. Mr. Sampson seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.**

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

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. 2022-2229. City Council Ordinance No. 2022-2229 was read by title. Mayor Witt asked if anyone wanted to be heard regarding City Council Ordinance No. 2022-2229. No one asked to speak on City Council Ordinance No. 2022-2229, therefore Mayor Witt closed the public hearing.

4. City Council Ordinance No. 2022-2229 (final reading) - An ordinance of the City of Lake City, Florida, amending Chapter 2, Article 2, of the City Code of Ordinances; providing for amendments to the rules of City Council Meetings; providing for training of appointees to special standing committees; providing for severability; providing for the repeal of conflicts; providing for codification; and providing an effective date. **Mr. Jefferson made a motion to approve City Council Ordinance No. 2022-2229 on final reading, amending Chapter 2, Article 2, of the City Code of Ordinances; providing for amendments to the rules of City Council Meetings, and providing for training of appointees to special standing committees. 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

Other Items

5. Gwen Lake Project Update (Presenter: Interim City Manager Paul Dyal/Director of Natural Gas Steve Brown)

Mr. Brown provided members with an update on the Gwen Lake Project. He reported the mitigation credits required to be purchased would be just over \$15,000.00 and Mr. Dyal approved this expense.

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 - Fire Pension Board Appointee (Presenter: Mayor Stephen Witt)

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

NEW BUSINESS

Ordinances – None

Resolutions

8. City Council Resolution No. 2022-072 - A resolution of the City Council of the City of Lake City, Florida; providing for the ratification of the execution of a Memorandum of Understanding with Local No. 2288 of International Association of Fire Fighters, AFL-CIO; providing for the ratification of a voice vote of the City Council; providing for severability; providing for conflict; and providing for an effective date. **Mr. Sampson made a motion to approve City Council Resolution No. 2022-072, providing for the ratification of the execution of a Memorandum of Understanding with Local No. 2288 of International Association of Fire Fighters, AFL-CIO, and providing for the ratification of a voice vote of the City Council. 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

9. City Council Resolution No. 2022-073 - A resolution of the City Council of the City of Lake City, Florida, reappointing Clarence Cannon as the City Council appointed member of the Board of Trustees of the Lake City Municipal Police Officers Retirement Trust Fund. **Mr. Jefferson made a motion to approve City Council Resolution No. 2022-073, reappointing Clarence Cannon as the City Council appointed member of the Board of Trustees of the Lake City Municipal Police Officers Retirement Trust Fund. 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

Other Items

10. Discussion and Possible Action - Request to forgive Code Enforcement Liens in the amount of \$35,550.00 that occurred from February 12, 2021 to date (474 days) on Parcel #05884000, 1175 NW Ashley Street, Lake City, Florida 32055

for Jacqueline Espenship, Special Magistrate Order Case No. 2021-00000020
(Presenter: Code Enforcement Officer, Marshall Sova)

Mr. Sampson recommended collecting the entire amount of the lien.

Mr. Jefferson asked about administration costs.

No motions were made.

- 11. Discussion and Possible Action - Consider rescheduling the August 1, 2022 City Council Meeting to take place on Thursday, August 4, 2022 at 6PM. Mayor Stephen Witt and Council Member Jake Hill, Jr. will be attending the Airport Conference from Saturday, July 30, 2022 through Wednesday, August 3, 2022. (Presenter: Mayor Stephen Witt)

The City Council members will meet on Thursday, August 4, 2022 at 5:15 PM as the Evaluation Committee for RFP 020-2022 City Attorney.

Members concurred to reschedule the August 1, 2022 City Council Meeting to August 4, 2022.

DEPARTMENTAL ADMINISTRATION

- 12. Discussion and Possible Action - Staff recommendation to approve proposed FY22/23 "Tentative" Millage Rate to the Columbia County Tax Appraiser for Truth in Millage (TRIM) Notice advertisement to property owners for the City's Tentative Budget Hearing (Interim City Manager Paul Dyal/Finance Director Donna Duncan)

Ms. Duncan provided members with two options for the Tentative Millage Rate: stay at the current rate of 4.9, or approve the roll back rate of 4.5.

Mr. Sampson made a motion to approve the proposed FY22/23 "Tentative" Millage Rate at the proposed rate of 4.9 mills. 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

- 13. Discussion and Possible Action - Staff recommendation to approve the TRIM Schedule for FY22/23 (Interim City Manager Paul Dyal/Finance Director Donna Duncan)

Ms. Duncan asked members to inform her of any issues they may have with the proposed dates.

Mr. Sampson made a motion to approve the TRIM Schedule for FY22/23. Mr. Hill seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.

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

COMMENTS BY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mr. Hill reported he had some concerns with the lease agreement with HAECO at the airport.

ADJOURNMENT

All matters having been handled, the meeting adjourned at 7:13 PM on a motion made and duly seconded.

Stephen M. Witt, Mayor/Council Member

Audrey Sikes, City Clerk