

The City Council in and for the citizens of the City of Lake City, Florida, met in Special Session, on December 15, 2021 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 live on our YouTube Channel.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION – Mayor Stephen M. Witt

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, Jr.
Michael Williams
Interim Chief Gerald Butler
Audrey Sikes

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Hill made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Jefferson seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

PERSONS WISHING TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

Glenel Bowden expressed concern with the City Manager search process and lack of quality candidates.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Discussion and Possible Action - Procurement of City Manager (Renee Narloch of S. Renee Narloch & Associates will present a procurement process and short list of applicants)

Ms. Narloch presented Council with her procurement process, i.e. preliminary interviews, advertisement, and how many applicants there were for the position. She reported she was able to narrow the applicants down and presented a short list of four applicants to the Council. Ms. Narloch reported one candidate, Allen Bradworth, withdrew. She presented candidates: Glen Adams, Elizabeth Lynn Ladner, and Thomas Thomas.

Members concurred to replace the candidate (Allen Bradworth) with Brian Kauffman and to meet on Wednesday, December 22, 2021 from 8:30 AM to 12:30 PM virtually to interview the four candidates (Glen Adams, Brian Kauffman, Elizabeth Lynn Ladner and Thomas Thomas).

PUBLIC COMMENT: Sylvester Warren addressed Council about Public Works Director Thomas Henry returning to work and inquired who would fill Interim City Manager Michael William's position once Mr. Williams left.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Shawn Holmgren suggested the Council not take input from the audience on the City Manager hiring process.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Stew Lilker asked the Council what they were looking for in a City Manager.

2. City Attorney to request Litigation Session for the Coker vs City of Lake City lawsuit (City Attorney to request a Closed Litigation Session scheduled for a future date)

Attorney Koberlein requested a litigation session to discuss issues of pending litigation.

Mr. Sampson made a motion to schedule a litigation session to discuss pending litigation. 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

Mr. Sampson made a motion to hold a Special Meeting on Wednesday, December 22, 2021 at 8:30 AM to speak with the City Manager Candidates. 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

COMMENTS BY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mr. Hill responded to the question Stew Lilker asked during public comments regarding what he wanted from a City Manager. Mr. Hill stated he would like someone who was of a minority, compassionate, and community friendly and fair across the board.

ADJOURNMENT

All matters having been handled, the meeting adjourned at 5:53 PM on a motion made and duly seconded.

Stephen M. Witt, Mayor/Council Member

Audrey Sikes, MMC City Clerk