

The City Council in and for the citizens of the City of Lake City, Florida, met in Regular Session, on March 4, 2024 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-Council Member Stephen Witt

At this time, a moment of silence was held for Assistant Fire Chief Dwight Boozer. Mayor Witt announced funeral arrangements.

ROLL CALL

Mayor/Council Member
City Council

Stephen M. Witt
Jake Hill, Jr.
Chevella Young
Ricky Jernigan

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

James Carter
Clay Martin
Dee Johnson
Chief Gerard Butler
Audrey Sikes

After Mayor Witt read the rules of decorum aloud, Mr. Jernigan inquired about consequences should someone violate the rules. Mayor Witt reported they could be removed. Mr. Jernigan requested for appropriate verbiage to be incorporated into the agenda template to be read at every meeting by the presiding officer. Mayor Witt concurred to add the language.

PROCLAMATIONS – None

MINTUES

1. January 22, 2024 Council Workshop
2. February 5, 2024 Regular Session

Mr. Hill made a motion to approve the January 22, 2024 Council Workshop and February 5, 2024 Regular Session minutes as presented. Ms. Young seconded the motion the motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Witt reported Item #6 needed to be removed due to funeral preparations. **Mr. Carter made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Mr. Hill seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.**

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – PERSONS WISHING TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

- Sylvester Warren
- Glenel Bowden
- John Cole
- Victor Kamacho

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

3. Approval to award Bid No. ITB-006-2024 Annual Contract for Fencing to North Florida Fence, the lowest bidder.

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

PRESENTATIONS – None

OLD BUSINESS

Ordinances – None

Resolutions – None

Other Items

4. Discussion and Possible Action: City Manager Applicants (Human Resources Director BillieJo Bible)

Ms. Bible reported there was nothing new to report since the previous meeting, and offered to assist as needed.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Sylvester Warren; Glenel Bowden

Members verbally announced their top 3 candidates as follows:

Mr. Jernigan: Gerald Butler, Juan Guerra, Don Rosenthal

Mr. Hill: Don Rosenthal, Juan Guerra, Stephen Popski

Mayor Witt: Gerald Butler, Michael Brillhart. Stephen Popski

Mr. Carter: Juan Guerra, Gerald Butler, Don Rosenthal

Ms. Young: Don Rosenthal, Juan Guerra, Michael Brillhart

Mayor Witt announced the results as follows:

Don Rosenthal – 4 votes

Juan Guerra – 4 votes

Gerald Butler – 3 votes

Michael Brillhart – 2 votes

Stephen Popski – 2 votes

Note: David Paoloff received 0 votes

Members concurred to interview the top three candidates, Don Rosenthal, Juan Guerra and Gerald Butler in person.

Members discussed having the candidates in the community for 2-3 days to work through the process.

Members concurred to have the interviews later in the day, around 5:00 PM, potentially on a Wednesday or Thursday. Members are to provide Ms. Sikes with their dates of availability.

Members concurred to cover the candidates travel expenses.

Members concurred for the process to include a tour of the City facilities, round table session with directors, meet and greet event with the community, one on one session with each Council Member and conducting the interview the final day. The City Clerk, Interim City Manager, City Attorney and Human Resource Director will coordinate together to get scheduled.

Ms. Bible reported she has the questions already prepared and is not comfortable providing them ahead of time. She recommends not releasing until the interview. Attorney Martin reported the questions are a public record.

Members are to review the questions prepared by Ms. Bible. Members will discuss at a later date, the format to be utilized for the interview process.

NEW BUSINESS

Ordinances – None

Resolutions

5. City Council Resolution No. 2024-021 - A resolution of the City Council of the City of Lake City, Florida, authorizing the execution of Task Assignment Four with Passero Associates, LLC, for professional services for the reconstruction of existing pavement and storm sewer on the Northern half of Industrial Loop Road at the Lake City Gateway Airport; providing for a total cost not-to-exceed \$98,333.00; and providing for an effective date.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Sylvester Warren

**Mr. Hill made a motion to approve City Council Resolution No. 2024-021.
Mr. Jernigan seconded the motion.**

Mr. Jernigan inquired about Camp Street being paved. Mr. Johnson reported he would need to check infrastructure before allocating funds for roads.

A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.

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

Other Items – None

DEPARTMENTAL ADMINISTRATION

6. Discussion and Possible Action - Approval to use a maximum amount of \$1.8 million of the remaining ARPA funds to replace the 18-year-old Ladder 1 truck. Currently the build time after purchase of a new replacement ladder truck is two (2) years. (Chief Josh Wehinger)

This Item was removed during approval of the agenda.

Mr. Jernigan made a motion to table the Affordable Housing Workshop until a permanent City Manager was in place. The motion died due to lack of second.

COMMENTS BY COUNCIL MEMBERS – None

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Jernigan made a motion to adjourn at 6:50 PM. Mr. Hill seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

Stephen M. Witt, Mayor/Council Member

Audrey Sikes, City Clerk