

ARTICLE I. - INCORPORATION, BOUNDARIES AND CHARTER

Section 101. - Incorporation.

City of Lake City, County of Columbia, State of Florida was first incorporated under Laws of Fla. ch. 940 (1858).

Section 102. - Effective date of this Charter.

The present Charter of the City of Lake City is hereby rescinded, revoked and abolished concurrent with the approval of this Charter by the electors of the City of Lake City, Florida at the election of April 5, 1977, except Section 142 relating to a park. This shall remain as an ordinance and the council may by resolution after approval of this Charter, delete this language relating to said park. This Charter shall be in full force and effect commencing with the date of its approval by the electors of the City of Lake City.

Section 103. - Boundaries.

The boundaries of the City of Lake City shall be defined by ordinance of annexation having the latest effective date.

Section 104. - Continuation of certain provisions.

All existing laws, ordinances, regulations and resolutions which are not inconsistent with this Charter shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 105. - Rights of officers and employees.

- (a) Nothing in this Charter or any amendments properly made hereto, except as otherwise specifically provided, shall affect or impair the rights or privileges of persons who are city officers or employees at the time of adoption of this Charter or any amendment. Elected officers shall continue to hold their offices and discharge the duties thereof until their successors are elected and qualified.
- (b) The terms of office of the councilmembers, including the mayor-councilmember, serving at the time of the special election of June 20, 1978, shall expire and terminate upon approval of Ordinance A-389 by a majority of the electors of the city so voting at said special election and upon their successors being elected and taking office.

(Ord. No. A-389, § 1(A), 5-15-78)

ARTICLE II. - POWERS OF THE CITY

Section 201. - Powers of the city.

The City of Lake City shall have all rights and powers of local self-government which are now, or hereafter may be[,] provided by the United States Constitution and the Constitution and Laws of Florida and this Charter, including but not limited to the following:

- (a) To organize and regulate its internal affairs and to establish, alter, abolish and terminate offices, positions and employments including citizen board positions; define functions, powers and duties and fix their term, tenure and composition.
- (b) To adopt, amend and repeal such ordinances and resolutions and codes as may be required for the good government of the city.
- (c) To acquire by purchase, gift, devise, condemnation, or otherwise, property, real or personal, or any estate therein, within or without the city, to be used for any purpose necessary or to meet the needs of the city, and to operate, maintain, repair, improve, any and all properties, real or personal, streets, sidewalks, and the like by the expenditure of the monies of the city for all lawful purposes.
- (d) To raise funds by taxation and to make such levy upon the taxable property of the City of Lake City, and by license and tax upon privileges, businesses, occupations and professions whatsoever carried on and engaged in within the corporate limits of the city, such sums of money as the city council, hereinafter provided for, shall deem necessary for the purposes and needs of the city and in such manner as shall be provided by ordinances of the said city council. Such fees and taxes to be consistent with Florida Statutes.
- (e) To appropriate and expend money for any public purpose.
- (f) To borrow money for public purposes.
- (g) To levy special assessments upon property in a limited and determinable area for special benefits conferred upon such property by any municipal work, service or improvement; and to provide for the payment of all or any part of the cost of the work, service or improvement, out of the proceeds of such special assessments.
- (h) To levy special or local assessments for local improvements and to hold liens for public purposes.
- (i) To purchase, hire, construct, own, operate, maintain or lease local public utilities, including, but not limited to, bus lines, electric light and power, telephone and telegraph systems, and works for supplying the city and its inhabitants with water, sewerage, gas for heating or other purposes. To fix and collect just and reasonable fees and charges

for the services furnished by such facilities. To exercise jurisdiction, control and supervision over any municipal utilities, owned, operated, franchised, leased, or maintained by the city.

- (j) To grant a franchise to any private corporation or person for the use of streets and other public places in the furnishing of any public service to the city and to its inhabitants.
- (k) To construct, acquire, operate, maintain, improve or extend public improvements and projects for any public purpose to include but not limited to the following: Public buildings, streets, alleys, sidewalks, avenues, boulevards, lanes and promenades, drainage systems including both off-street and on-street facilities, garbage, sewerage and other waste collections and disposals including an establishment of fees for same. To regulate the speed and operation of any vehicle on public lands and vessels on waterways.
- (l) To compel the abatement and/or the removal of all nuisances within the city or upon property owned by the city beyond its limits.
- (m) To establish and administer housing, urban renewal programs, conservation, flood controls, air pollution controls and drainage programs either singly or in cooperation with governmental agencies and private enterprise in the development and operation of these programs.
- (n) To establish departments or systems.
- (o) To sue and be sued. To have a corporate seal, to contract and be contracted with, to have the power of eminent domain.
- (p) To establish, promulgate and implement a policy and program of affirmative action to provide equal employment opportunity for affected classes who have been underemployed due to their race, color, national origin, sex, [or] marital status.

(Ord. No. A-496, § 1, 8-16-82)

Section 202. - Construction.

The powers of the city under this Charter shall be construed liberally in favor of the city, and specific mention of particular powers in this Charter shall not be construed as limiting in any way the general power stated in this article.

Section 203. - Intergovernmental relations.

The city may exercise any of its powers or perform any of its functions and may participate in the financing thereof, jointly or in cooperation by contract or otherwise, with any one or more states or divisions or agencies thereof, or the United States or any agency thereof.

