



## Lake Park Town Commission, Florida

### Regular Commission Meeting Minutes

Commission Chamber, Town Hall, 535 Park Avenue, Lake Park, FL 33403

Wednesday March 19, 2025 6:30pm

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<b>Roger Michaud</b>	—	<b>Mayor</b>
<b>Kimberly Glas Castro</b>	—	<b>Vice Mayor</b>
<b>Michael Hensley</b>	—	<b>Commissioner</b>
<b>Mary Beth Taylor</b>	—	<b>Commissioner</b>
<b>Judith Thomas</b>	—	<b>Commissioner</b>
<b>John Linden</b>	—	<b>Commissioner</b>
<b>Michael O'Rourke</b>	—	<b>Commissioner</b>
<b>Richard J. Reade</b>	—	<b>Town Manager</b>
<b>Thomas J. Baird</b>	—	<b>Town Attorney</b>
<b>Vivian Mendez, MMC</b>	—	<b>Town Clerk</b>

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***PLEASE TAKE NOTICE AND BE ADVISED, that if any interested person desires to appeal any decision of the Town Commission, with respect to any matter considered at this meeting, such interested person will need a record of the proceedings, and for such purpose, may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. Persons with disabilities requiring accommodations in order to participate in the meeting should contract the Town Clerk's office by calling 881-3311 at least 48 hours in advance to request accommodations.***

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#### **CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

6:35pm

PRESENT

Mayor Roger Michaud

Commissioner Judith Thomas

Commissioner Michael Hensley

Commissioner Elect John Linden

Commissioner Elect Michael O'Rourke

Vice Mayor Kimberly Glas-Castro

Commissioner Mary Beth Taylor

## **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge was led by Mayor Michaud

## **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Motion to approve modified agenda to include a presentation by Fire Chief Rowley made by Vice Mayor Glas-Castro. Seconded by Commissioner Hensley. Voting aye: All. The presentation will be heard after the swearing in ceremony.

## **SPECIAL PRESENTATION/REPORT:**

1. Resolution 08-03-25 - Accept Certified Election Results - March 11, 2025 General Municipal Election.

Motion to approve Resolution 08-03-25 made by Commissioner Thomas, Seconded by Commissioner Hensley.

Voting Yea: Mayor Michaud, Commissioner Thomas, Commissioner Hensley, Commissioner Taylor and Vice Mayor Glas-Castro.

## **SPECIAL PRESENTATION/REPORT:**

2. Proclamation - Honoring Commissioner Mary Beth Taylor.
3. Proclamation - Honoring Vice-Mayor Kimberly Glas-Castro.

Mayor Michaud presented the proclamations.

A five minute recess was taken at 6:47pm at the request of Mayor Michaud.

The Regular Commission Meeting reconvened at 6:50pm.

## **SPECIAL PRESENTATION/REPORT:**

4. Town Commissioner's Swearing - In Ceremony

Commissioners Hensley, Thomas, O'Rourke and Linden were sworn in by Deputy Town Clerk Laura Weidgans as Commissioners of the Town of Lake Park, Florida.

5. Selection of a Vice-Mayor.

Commissioner Linden nominated Commissioner Hensley to serve as Vice Mayor. Seconded by Commissioner Thomas. Voting aye: all.

Palm Beach County Fire Rescue District Chief William Rowley presented the Commission with the Town of Lake Park annual report (Exhibit A).

The Commission thanked Chief Rowley.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

*This time is provided for addressing items that do not appear on the Agenda. Please complete a comment card and provide it to the Town Clerk so speakers may be announced. Please remember comments are limited to a TOTAL of three minutes.*

-Susan LaFontaine stated that high rises should not be considered in Town when taking the Town's objectives into account.

-Kara Rosa introduced herself as an attorney residing in Town and offered free legal services to the Town. She spoke about wanting to be involved and the poor voter turnout in Town.

-Kervens Jean-Baptiste congratulated recently elected commissioners. He spoke about a potential 16 story high rise on 10th Street creating privacy concerns.

-Recess taken at 7:35pm

-Meeting reconvened at 7:50pm

James Sullivan spoke about how parents in Town need to make kids wear helmets on their bikes.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

*All matters listed under this item are considered routine and action will be taken by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Commissioner or person so requests, in which event the item will be removed from the general order of business and considered in its normal sequence on the agenda. Any person wishing to speak on an agenda item is asked to complete a public comment card located on either side of the Chambers and given to the Town Clerk. Cards must be submitted before the item is discussed.*

6. March 5, 2025 Regular Commission Meeting Minutes

7. Proclamation Commemorating Harry S. Kelsey, Founder of Kelsey City.
8. Replacement Front End Loader Dumpster Purchase.
9. Fiscal Year 2024 Lake Park CRA Annual Report – Accept & Submit to Appropriate and Required Taxing Authorities.
10. Ratification of Insurance Settlement – Preferred Governmental Claims Solutions (Kelly).
11. Approval to Terminate Current Town Pension Program - Proposed Termination Letter - Corebridge Financial Institutional Services.

Motion made to approve the consent agenda by Commissioner Thomas, Seconded by Commissioner Linden.

Voting Yea: Mayor Michaud, Commissioner Thomas, Vice Mayor Hensley, Commissioner Linden, Commissioner O'Rourke.

**PUBLIC HEARING(S) - ORDINANCE ON FIRST READING: NONE**

**PUBLIC HEARING(S) - ORDINANCE ON SECOND READING:**

12. Ordinance 01-2025 - Authorizing Participation in the Florida Retirement System for All Town Employees - Effective July 1, 2025.

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN COMMISSION OF THE TOWN OF LAKE PARK, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE FLORIDA RETIREMENT SYSTEM FOR GENERAL EMPLOYEES AND ELECTED OFFICIALS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Motion made to approve Ordinance 01-2025 by Commissioner Thomas, Seconded by Vice-Mayor Hensley.

Voting Yea: Mayor Michaud, Commissioner Thomas, Vice Mayor Hensley, Commissioner Linden, Commissioner O'Rourke.

Town Attorney Baird read the Ordinance by title only.

## **TOWN ATTORNEY, TOWN MANAGER, COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:**

Town Attorney Baird notified the Commission that the lawsuit, Hammer vs the Town, has been dismissed with prejudice as a result of the settlement agreement.

Town Manager Reade stated that the Commission will be receiving a request for budget priorities via email in the next day or so.

Town Manager Reade made the following announcements:

- Free tax aid is still available at the Library.

- On April 1st a new art exhibit will open with an opening reception on April 5<sup>th</sup> from 2:15pm to 3:45 pm.

- The Town is hosting an annual bike tour in honor of Florida Bicycle Month on Saturday March 22<sup>nd</sup>. The tour will begin at Town Hall at 1:45 pm

Town Manager Reade provided an update on 754 Park Avenue. He stated that all County impact fees have not been paid, and the master permit has not been issued. The property owners advised that once the permits are issued, the work would take approximately 5 months to complete. He also stated that the existing code violation is accruing \$150.00 daily and the total amount due as of this day is \$60,569.69 which includes fees and costs, but there will be additional interest that will accrue. Town Manager Reade stated that staff recommends foreclosure and requests direction from the Commission and the Town Attorney.

Motion to move forward with foreclosure made by Commissioner O'Rourke, seconded by Vice Mayor Hensley. Voting aye all.

Town Attorney Baird stated that according to Florida Statute 162, the matter would have to go before the Magistrate for authorization prior to taking action.

Town Manager Reade expressed gratitude towards former Commissioner Taylor and Former Vice Mayor Glas-Castro for their service to the Town. He extended congratulations to the newly elected and re-elected officials.

Commissioner O'Rourke thanked residents of Lake Park. He stated that it is an honor to serve in this position and serve the Town. He spoke about Former Vice Mayor Glas-Castro, her many achievements and service to the Town. He also expressed gratitude to former Commissioner Taylor for the service she brought to the community.

Commissioner Thomas thanked family, friends, volunteers, voters, members on the dais and business partners. She spoke about her gratitude and humility to be the first black female to serve in an all-male Commission. She spoke about Ms. Dorothy Taylor Williams paving the path. She stated she is committed to bringing varying perspective to the Commission and building a better community.

Commissioner Linden thanked residents and enjoyed campaigning. He announced that the Historic Society meets the fourth Monday of every month. One March 24, they are having a tribute to Burt Reynolds. They will also be having a birthday party for Harry Kelsey on the same night. Commissioner Linden also announced the passing of Sue Duchene who was an active member of the community.

Vice Mayor Hensley thanked residents for believing in him and will continue to do good work. He welcomed the new Commissioners to the dais and looks forward to working with them. He also expressed gratitude for former Vice Mayor Glas-Castro for her contributions to the Town and to former Commissioner Taylor who will continue to fight for the residents. Vice Mayor Hensley thanked the Town Manager for keeping them updated on 754 Park Avenue.

Mayor Michaud thanked Commissioner Linden for providing the information about Ms. Duchene and he spoke about her achievements in Town. The Mayor welcomed the new Commissioners to the dais. He also spoke about former Vice Mayor Glas-Castro and former Commissioner Taylor who were both passionate Commissioners that care about the community. Mayor Michaud announced the Tour de Lake Park this Saturday.

#### **REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:**

Commissioner Linden spoke about sign regulations in other municipalities. He proposed reviewing the Town's sign regulations due to there being so many improperly placed signs during this election cycle.

Vice Mayor Hensley recommended staff creating a presentation for the education of the younger generation regarding helmet safety.

Town Manager Reade stated it would be a good opportunity to add this item to the Town's new video library that is being implemented.

Commissioner O'Rourke would like to review the Town's election process. He suggested a Town wide referendum for a new voting process with 2 voting districts.

Mayor Michaud requests a revisit of the gravel driveways time-table to consider allowing more time for compliance due to the struggles within the current economic climate.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion to adjourn made by Commissioner O'Rourke, Seconded by Vice Mayor Hensley.

Voting Yea: Mayor Michaud, Commissioner Thomas, Vice Mayor Hensley, Commissioner Linden, Commissioner O'Rourke.

Meeting adjourned 8:25 pm

**FUTURE MEETING DATE:** Next Scheduled Regular Commission Meeting will be held on April 2, 2025.

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Mayor Roger D. Michaud

Town Seal

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Town Clerk, Vivian Mendez, MMC

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Deputy Town Clerk, Laura Weidgans

Approved on this \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025