

# CITY OF PAHOKEE



## MINUTES

### **City Commission Regular Meeting**

Monday, September 12, 2022, at 6:00 PM

Pahokee Commission Chambers  
360 East Main Street  
Pahokee, Florida 33476

#### **CITY COMMISSION:**

Keith W. Babb, Jr., Mayor  
Clara Murvin, Vice Mayor  
Derrick Boldin, Commissioner  
Juan Gonzalez, Commissioner  
Sara Perez, Commissioner

#### **CITY STAFF:**

Rodney Lucas, Interim City Manager  
Jongelene Adams, Deputy City Manager  
Tijauna Warner, City Clerk  
Burnadette Norris-Weeks, Esq., City Attorney  
Lynne Ladner, Interim Finance/Human Resource Director

[TENTATIVE: SUBJECT TO REVISION]

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## MINUTES

### A. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Babb called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM.

### B. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Vice Mayor Murvin lead the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

### C. ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Mayor Keith Babb

Vice Mayor Clara Murvin

Commissioner Derrick Boldin

Commissioner Juan Gonzalez

Commissioner Sara Perez

Rodney D. Lucas, City Manager

Burnadette Norris-Weeks, City Attorney

Jongelene Adams, Deputy City Manager (Acting City Clerk)

### D. ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS:

Mayor Babb requested for the report from the ARPA Committee Chair to be added to the agenda.

Motion made by Vice Mayor Murvin to add the ARPA Committee Chair, Linda Joseph to the agenda under Presentations, Seconded by Commissioner Boldin. Motion passed unanimously. Voting Yea: Mayor Babb, Vice Mayor Murvin, Commissioner Boldin, Commissioner Gonzalez, Commissioner Perez

Motion made by Vice Mayor Murvin to approve the agenda with the addition, Seconded by Commissioner Boldin. Motion passed unanimously.

Voting Yea: Mayor Babb, Vice Mayor Murvin, Commissioner Boldin, Commissioner Gonzalez, Commissioner Perez

### E. PUBLIC COMMENTS / PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS / PRESENTATIONS / PROCLAMATIONS

*This section of the agenda allows for comments from the public to speak. Each speaker will be given a total of three (3) minutes to comment. A public comment card should be completed and returned to the City Clerk. When you are called to speak, please go to the podium or unmute your device, and prior to addressing the Commission, state your name and address for the record*

Ms. Pearl Freeman (*resident*) expressed concerns about the pier's restrooms not being open and not enough lighting. Discussion ensued regarding the repairs on the marina.

Ms. Luz Torres (*resident*) provided information to the City Commission on Impact of Sugarcane. She expressed concerns on the quality of the air in the Glades and requested the City Commission to come together and find a solution to this problem.

Mrs. Regina Bohlen (*resident*) expressed concerns with the ARPA Committee and advised how she think the funds should be spent.

Mrs. Linda Joseph (*resident*) advised the City Commission of what transpired with the ARPA Committee and advised how she think the funds should be spent.

Mrs. Boule-Washington responded to Mrs. Joseph statement. Discussion ensued regarding the ARPA Committee. Mrs. Washington advised she will schedule an ARPA Committee meeting on Thursday, September 15, 2022.

1. Certificate of Appreciation - Mike Pickney  
*Commissioner Gonzalez lead the City Commission in presenting a Certificate of Appreciation to Mr. Mike Pinkney.*
2. Certificate of Appreciation - Lynne Ladner  
*Not present.*
3. Certificate of Appreciation - Jacqueline Ramsay  
*Not present.*
4. Healthier Glades - Antoinita (Annie) Ifill, Project Director  
*Ms. Antoinita (Annie) Ifill presented information on the upcoming Mini Grant Program and advised the City Commission of Suicide Prevent Month.*
5. City of Pahokee Health Benefits - Gehring Group

Motion made by Vice Mayor Murvin to pay 100% of employee's insurance, Seconded by Commissioner Gonzalez. Motion failed (2-3).

Voting Yea: Vice Mayor Murvin, Commissioner Gonzalez

Voting Nay: Mayor Babb, Commissioner Boldin, Commissioner Perez

Motion made by Commissioner Perez to pay 90% of employee's insurance, Seconded by Commissioner Boldin. Motion passed (4-1).

Voting Yea: Mayor Babb, Vice Mayor Murvin, Commissioner Boldin, Commissioner Perez

Voting Nay: Commissioner Gonzalez

Motion made by Commissioner Perez to approve the dental, life, and vision plan, Seconded by Commissioner Gonzalez. Motion passed unanimously.

Voting Yea: Mayor Babb, Vice Mayor Murvin, Commissioner Boldin, Commissioner Gonzalez, Commissioner Perez

#### **F. CONSENT AGENDA**

None.

#### **G. OLD BUSINESS:**

*Discussion of existing activities or previously held events, if any*

None.

#### **H. PUBLIC HEARING(S)**

1. RESOLUTION 2022 - 33 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PAHOKEE, FLORIDA, ADOPTING A TENTATIVE MILLAGE RATE FOR FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING OCTOBER 1, 2022, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2023, PURSUANT TO SECTION 200.065, FLORIDA STATUTES; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

*Mrs. Norris-Weeks read Resolution 2022 - 33 into the record.*

Mr. Lucas gave a brief explanation of Resolution 2022 - 33.

***Public Hearing Opened 7:58 PM***

***Public Hearing Closed 7:59 PM***

Motion made by Vice Mayor Murvin to approve Resolution 2022-33, Seconded by Commissioner Boldin. Motion passed unanimously.

Voting Yea: Mayor Babb, Vice Mayor Murvin, Commissioner Boldin, Commissioner Gonzalez, Commissioner Perez

2. RESOLUTION 2022 - 34 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PAHOKEE, FLORIDA PROVIDING FOR THE ADOPTION AND FUNDING OF THE TENTATIVE MUNICIPAL BUDGET IN THE AMOUNT OF \$9,716,874.00 FOR THE CITY OF PAHOKEE, FLORIDA, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2022, AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2023; PROVIDING FOR ADOPTION OF REPRESENTATIONS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

*Mrs. Norris-Weeks read Resolution 2022 - 34 into the record.*

Mr. Lucas gave a brief explanation of Resolution 2022 - 34.

***Public Hearing Opened 8:00 PM***

Mr. James Scott (resident) requested a budget breakdown for each department.

Mrs. Regina Bohlen (resident) advised they are asking for a complete breakdown of each department.

***Public Hearing Closed 8:14 PM***

Motion made by Vice Mayor Murvin to approve Resolution 2022 - 34, Seconded by Commissioner Gonzalez. Motion passed unanimously.

Voting Yea: Mayor Babb, Vice Mayor Murvin, Commissioner Boldin, Commissioner Gonzalez, Commissioner Perez

## **9. RESOLUTION(S)**

- A. RESOLUTION 2022 - 35 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PAHOKEE FLORIDA, FOR APPROVAL OF CHANGE ORDER NO.6 TO RESOLUTION #2021-02 PERTAINING TO THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (FDOT), CONTRACT G-1753, FM# 442030-01-54-1, BARFIELD HIGHWAY RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT AS SET FORTH IN EXHIBIT "A"; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

*Mrs. Norris-Weeks read Resolution 2022 - 35 into the record.*

Mr. Lucas and Ms. Adams gave a brief explanation of Resolution 2022 - 35.

Motion made by Vice Mayor Murvin for the approval of Resolution 2022 - 35, Seconded by Commissioner Gonzalez. Motion passed unanimously.

Voting Yea: Mayor Babb, Vice Mayor Murvin, Commissioner Boldin, Commissioner Gonzalez, Commissioner Perez

## **J. NEW BUSINESS:**

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*Conversation about an activity or event upcoming, if any*

1. American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)

*Discussed at the beginning of the meeting.*

2. Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office 17th Addendum

*Mr. Lucas provided an overview of the item. A discussion ensued.*

3. Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office Surveillance Equipment on City Property

*Mr. Lucas provided an overview of the item.*

4. Everglades Prep Academy Contract

*Mr. Lucas provided an overview of the item. A discussion ensued.*

#### **H. REPORT OF THE MAYOR**

Mayor Babb announced following:

- Empower Healthcare, had its Grand Opening on September 10, 2022
- The Remembrance Ceremony for the Storm of 1928 will be on September 16, 2022, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM, at the Port Mayaca Cemetery
- He will be at the Florida League of Cities Legislative Policy Committee Meeting on September 15-16, 2022

Mayor Babb discussed the Commission considering residents' input, when making decisions.

He requested that all future major funded projects be placed on the future agendas.

Motion made by Mayor Babb to authorize staff to put all future major funded projects on the future agendas, Seconded by Vice Mayor Murvin. Discussion ensued, but no vote was taken.

He requested that Cemetery staff be provided new equipment.

#### **I. REPORT OF THE CITY MANAGER**

Mr. Lucas advised that repairs being done at the Maria complex and Sports complex, will be brought forward at the next meeting. He announced a couple of upcoming events.

#### **J. REPORT OF THE CITY ATTORNEY**

Mrs. Norris-Weeks discussed the order of business, which will be on the next agenda.

#### **K. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

Commissioner Perez discussed her request for the report on grants and respective status. She inquired about the Parks and Recreation Director hiring process.

Commissioner Gonzalez inquired about the entity responsible for maintaining the canal on 441, from Rardin Park to North Lake Ave.

Commissioner Boldin reiterated the inquiry about the Parks and Recreation Director hiring process, and provided data analysis for scoring.

Vice Mayor Murvin reported that she has been in contact with the Deputy County Engineer regarding the canals.

#### **L. FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER**

*Community events, feel good announcements*

None.

#### **M. ADJOURN (BY MOTION AND APPROVAL OF MAJORITY PRESENT)**

Motion made by Vice Mayor Murvin to adjourn the meeting, Seconded by Commissioner Gonzalez.

Voting Yea: Mayor Babb, Vice Mayor Murvin, Commissioner Boldin, Commissioner Gonzalez, Commissioner Perez

There being no further business to discuss, Mayor Babb adjourns the meeting at 9:46 pm.

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Keith W. Babb, Jr., Mayor

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ATTEST: Tijauna Warner, CMC, City Clerk