

# CITY OF PAHOKEE



## MINUTES

**City Commission Regular Meeting**  
Tuesday, February 28, 2023, 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 D. Lucas, City Manager  
Jongelene Adams, Deputy City Manager  
Tijauna Warner, City Clerk  
Burnadette Norris-Weeks, Esq., City Attorney  
Joseph R. Martin, Interim Finance Director

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## MINUTES

### A. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Babb at 6:05 PM.

### B. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mrs. Ida Pringle led the Invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

### C. ROLL CALL

PRESENT

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

Rodney D. Lucas, City Manager  
Burnadette Norris-Weeks, City Attorney  
Tijauna Warner, City Clerk

### D. ADDITIONS OF EMERGENCY BASIS FROM CITY MANAGER, DELETIONS AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS

Motion made by Vice Mayor Murvin to approve the City Commission Agenda as is, Seconded by Commissioner Boldin. Motion passed (3-1).

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

Voting Nay: Commissioner Gonzalez

### 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)*

Mr. Carl Morrison (*resident*) expressed concerns with the decorum and conduct at the City Commission Meeting from citizens and commissioners.

Ms. Tamara Mosley (*resident*) expressed concerns with an issue that occurred at Port Mayaca Cemetery with a city employee.

Vice Mayor Murvin responded that she sent her condolences via Facebook and gave an re-occurrence of events that took place.

Mr. Ted Branecky (*part-time resident*) expressed concerns with the marina rates being raised.

Ms. Annie Ifill (*non-resident*) announced the Lets Move Campaign has partnered with Parks & Recreations to promote physical fitness.

Commissioner John Wilson (*non-resident*) gave an update on the apartment being build on the old hospital site and thanked the City Commissioners.

Commissioner Perez asked questions in reference to a hotel being built on the old city hall site. Discussion ensued.

Mrs. LaVita Holmes (*non-resident*) introduced herself as the new Executive Director of Glades Lives Matter and gave a brief overview of the organization.

Mr. Robert Love (*non-resident*) explained his behavior and advised there's things going on within the city that's not right.

Ms. Ida Pringle (*resident*) advised that children in the city has nothing to do and expressed some concerns with the city.

Commissioner Perez asked how much days the residents in the Parker Building had to move. Discussion ensued.

Mrs. Barbara Brown (*resident*) expressed concerns with the park and crossing guard in Glades Citizen Villa.

1. Jeff Winter - Consultant for Grant Writer

*Jeffrey Winter (Cornerstone Community Partners) submitted the proposal to offer Funding Resources Management Service to the City of Pahokee and gave a brief overview.*

2. Rebel Recovery

*Mr. Dean Mercedes provided information about Rebel Recovery to the City Commission and gave a brief overview of the organization.*

3. Financial Report - Joseph Martin, Interim Finance Director

*Mr. Joseph Martin (Interim Finance Director) presented the 1st Quarterly Financial Review to the City Commission.*

4. Black History Month & Community Spotlight - Peggy Boule-Washington, Director of Community & Economic Development

*Ms. Peggy Boule-Washington announced the City is extending the Community Spotlight for Black History Month.*

5. Forward Together Proclamation - Presented by Rodney Lucas, City Manager for Congresswoman Sheila Cherfilus-McCormick 20th Congressional District of Florida

*Mr. Rodney Lucas present the Forward Together Proclamation for Congresswoman Sheila Cherfilus-McCormick 20th Congressional District of Florida to Mayor Keith W. Babb, Jr., Vice Mayor Clara "Tasha" Murvin, and Commissioner Derrick Boldin.*

**F. CONSENT AGENDA**

Motion made by Commissioner Gonzalez to remove consent agenda items to regular agenda for discussion, Seconded by Commissioner Perez. Mayor Babb called for questions. Discussion ensued. Motion failed (2-3).

Voting Yea: Commissioner Gonzalez, Commissioner Perez

Voting Nay: Mayor Babb, Vice Mayor Murvin, Commissioner Boldin

Motion made by Vice Mayor Murvin to approve Consent Agenda Items, Seconded by Mayor Babb. Mayor Babb called for questions. Motion passed (3-2).

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

Voting Nay: Commissioner Gonzalez, Commissioner Perez

1. February 14, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes

**G. OLD BUSINESS** (*discussion of existing activities or previously held events, if any*)

1. Update - City Projects

Ms. Jongelene Adams gave a brief overview of City Projects. Discussion ensued.

**H. PUBLIC HEARINGS AND/OR ORDINANCES**

**1. ORDINANCE 2023 - 01 (Second Reading) AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PAHOKEE, FLORIDA SUBMITTING TO REFERENDUM AN AMENDMENT TO THE CITY CHARTER; AMENDING SECTION 3.01, ENTITLED “DESIGNATION” TO ADD THE CITY ATTORNEY AS AN ADDITIONAL CHARTER OFFICER; PROVIDING FOR ADOPTION OF REPRESENTATIONS; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICT AND REPEALER; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR INCLUSION IN CODE; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

*Mrs. Burnadette Norris-Weeks read Ordinance 2023 - 01 into the record. Mr. Lucas gave a brief explanation of Ordinance 2023 - 01.*

Public Hearing Opened 8:21pm

Public Hearing Closed 8:21pm

Motion made by Commissioner Boldin to approve Ordinance 2023 - 01, Seconded by Vice Mayor Murvin. Mayor Babb called for questions. Discussion ensued. Motion passed (3-2).

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

Voting Nay: Commissioner Gonzalez, Commissioner Perez

**2. ORDINANCE 2023 - 02 (Second Reading) AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PAHOKEE, FLORIDA SUBMITTING TO REFERENDUM AN AMENDMENT TO THE CITY CHARTER; AMENDING SECTION 4.02, ENTITLED, “QUALIFYING” TO ESTABLISH A REQUIREMENT THAT ALL CANDIDATES FOR MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSIONER SHALL RESIDE WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS OF THE CITY OF PAHOKEE FOR AT LEAST ONE YEAR PRIOR TO QUALIFYING; ESTABLISHING REQUIREMENTS FOR THE PRESENTATION OF CERTAIN OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS AS PROOF OF RESIDENCY; ESTABLISHING REQUIREMENTS FOR REASONABLE TRAINING STANDARDS PRIOR TO THE QUALIFYING; PROVIDING FOR ADOPTION OF REPRESENTATIONS; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICT AND REPEALER; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR INCLUSION IN CODE; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

*Mrs. Burnadette Norris-Weeks read Ordinance 2023 - 02 into the record. Mr. Lucas gave a brief explanation of Ordinance 2023 - 02.*

Public Hearing Opened 8:34pm

Mr. Carl Morrison asked for an explanation of reasonable training for the commissioners.

Mrs. Norris-Weeks gave explanations of training that could be reasonable for the commissioners.

Public Hearing Closed 8:41pm

Motion made by Commissioner Boldin to approve Ordinance 2023 - 02, Seconded by Vice Mayor Murvin. Mayor Babb called for questions. Discussion ensued.

Motion made by Commissioner Perez to approve Ordinance 2023 - 02 with amendment to strike/remove training requirements of elected officials, Seconded by Commissioner Boldin. Motion passed unanimously.

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

3. **ORDINANCE 2023 - 03 (Second Reading) AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PAHOKEE, FLORIDA SUBMITTING TO REFERENDUM AN AMENDMENT TO THE CITY CHARTER; AMENDING SECTION 5.02, ENTITLED, “OATH OF OFFICERS; TAKING OFFICE” TO ESTABLISH A REQUIREMENT THAT NEWLY ELECTED OFFICIALS BE SWORN INTO OFFICE AT THE BEGINNING OF THE NEXT PROPERLY NOTICED CITY COMMISSION MEETING; PROVIDING FOR ADOPTION OF REPRESENTATIONS; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICT AND REPEALER; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR INCLUSION IN CODE; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

*Mrs. Burnadette Norris-Weeks read Ordinance 2023 - 03 into the record. Mr. Lucas gave a brief explanation of Ordinance 2023 - 03.*

Public Hearing Opened 8:49pm

Public Hearing Closed 8:49pm

Motion made by Commissioner Boldin to approve Ordinance 2023 - 03, Seconded by Vice Mayor Murvin. Mayor Babb called for questions. Motion passed unanimously.

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

4. **ORDINANCE 2023 - 04 (Second Reading) AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PAHOKEE, FLORIDA, REPEALING AND REPLACING ARTICLE II, SECTION 2-26 ENTITLED “CITY COMMISSION MEETINGS GENERALLY” AND 2-29 ENTITLED “ORDER OF BUSINESS”; RENUMBERING AND REORDERING AS NECESSARY; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

*Mrs. Burnadette Norris-Weeks read Ordinance 2023 - 04 into the record. Mr. Lucas gave a brief explanation of Ordinance 2023 - 04.*

Public Hearing Opened 9:00pm

Mr. Carl Morrison for clarification when we have four (4) commissioners to override.

Public Hearing Closed 9:01pm

Motion made by Commissioner Boldin to approve Ordinance 2023 - 04, Seconded by Vice Mayor Murvin. Mayor Babb called for questions. Discussion ensued.

Motion made by Commissioner Gonzalez to amend votes from 4 to 3 to override the mayor, Seconded by Commissioner Perez. Motion failed (2-3).

Voting Yea: Commissioner Gonzalez, Commissioner Perez

Voting Nay: Mayor Babb, Vice Mayor Murvin, Commissioner Boldin

Motion made by Vice Mayor Murvin to approve Ordinance 2023 - 04, Seconded by Commissioner Boldin. Mayor Babb called for questions. Motion passed (3-2).

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

**I. RESOLUTION(S)**

*Commissioner Gonzalez exit Commission Meeting at 9:13PM.*

- A. RESOLUTION 2023 - 08 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PAHOKEE, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE SIGNATORIES FOR VARIOUS BANK ACCOUNTS OF THE CITY OF PAHOKEE AT PNC BANK, N.A; RECOGNIZING, JOSEPH MARTIN, INTERIM FINANCE DIRECTOR, AS AN ADDITIONAL SIGNATORY, AUTHORIZING CITY OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE ALL NECESSARY DOCUMENTS TO COMPORT WITH THIS RESOLUTION AND WITH PNC BANKING REQUIREMENTS; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

*Mrs. Burnadette Norris-Weeks read Resolution 2023 - 08 into the record. Mr. Lucas gave a brief explanation of Resolution 2023 - 08.*

Motion made by Commissioner Boldin to approve Resolution 2023 - 08, Seconded by Vice Mayor Murvin. Mayor Babb called for questions. Discussion ensued. Motion passed (3-1).

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

*Commissioner Gonzalez returns to Commission Meeting at 9:17PM.*

- B. RESOLUTION 2023 - 09 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PAHOKEE FLORIDA, ACCEPTING CHANGE ORDER #1 RELATED TO AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN MOMENTUM CEI, INC AND THE CITY OF PAHOKEE FOR CONSTRUCTION AND ENGINEERING INSPECTION SERVICES IN CONJUNCTION WITH STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION CONTRACT G-1753, FM# 442030-01-54-1, FOR THE BARFIELD HIGHWAY RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT; PROVIDING FOR THE ADOPTION OF REPRESENTATIONS, PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

*Mrs. Burnadette Norris-Weeks read Resolution 2023 - 09 into the record. Mr. Lucas gave a brief explanation of Resolution 2023 - 09.*

Motion made by Commissioner Boldin to approve Resolution 2023 - 09, Seconded by Vice Mayor Murvin. Mayor Babb called for questions. Discussion ensued. Motion passed (3-2).

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

- C. RESOLUTION 2023 - 10 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PAHOKEE, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO SECURE A FIREWORKS VENDOR FOR THE CITY OF PAHOKEE'S JULY 4<sup>th</sup> INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION ON AN EMERGENCY BASIS AND FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$30,500.00; PROVIDING FOR ADOPTION OF REPRESENTATIONS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

*Mrs. Burnadette Norris-Weeks read Resolution 2023 - 10 into the record. Mr. Lucas gave a brief explanation of Resolution 2023 - 10.*



Motion made by Commissioner Boldin to approve Resolution 2023 - 10, Seconded by Vice Mayor Murvin. Mayor Babb called for questions. Discuss ensued. Motion passed unanimously.

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

**D. RESOLUTION NO. 2023 - 11 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PAHOKEE, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE USE OF AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT FUNDS OF 2021 TO ESTABLISH A COVID-19 WATER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM AND A RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR A TOTAL ALLOCATION AMOUNT OF \$225,000.00 FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

*Mrs. Burnadette Norris-Weeks read Resolution 2023 - 11 into the record. Mr. Lucas gave a brief explanation of Resolution 2023 - 11.*

Motion made by Vice Mayor Murvin to approve Resolution 2023 - 11, Seconded by Commissioner Boldin. Mayor Babb called for questions. Discussion ensued.

Motion made by Mayor Babb to amend Resolution 2023 -11 to set aside \$25,000 for Emergency Housing Rental Assistance, Seconded by Commissioner Boldin. Motion passed unanimously.

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

**E. RESOLUTION NO. 2023 - 12 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PAHOKEE, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE USE OF AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT FUNDS OF 2021 TO ESTABLISH A MENTAL HEALTH WELLNESS AND ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR A TOTAL ALLOCATION AMOUNT OF \$30,000.00 FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

*Mrs. Burnadette Norris-Weeks read Resolution 2023 - 12 into the record. Mr. Lucas gave a brief explanation of Resolution 2023 - 12.*

Motion made by Vice Mayor Murvin to approve Resolution 2023 - 12, Seconded by Commissioner Boldin. Mayor Babb called for questions. Motion passed unanimously.

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

Motion made by Commissioner Perez to adjourn the meeting. Duly seconded by Commissioner Boldin and passed unanimously.

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

There being no further business to discuss, Mayor Babb adjourned the meeting at 10:07 PM.

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Keith W. Babb, Jr., Mayor

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ATTEST: Tijauna Warner, CMC, City Clerk