



**CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PAHOKEE
REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, September 15, 2021**

Pursuant to due notice the regularly scheduled Commission meeting was held in the Commission Chambers at 360 East Main Street, Pahokee, Palm Beach County, Florida on September 15, 2021.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Babb at 6:30 p.m.

Official attendance was recorded as follows:

<u>Roll Call:</u>	Mayor Keith W. Babb, Jr.	Present
	Vice-Mayor Regina Bohlen	Present
	Commissioner Juan Gonzalez	Present
	Commissioner Clara M. Murvin	Present
	Commissioner Sara Perez	Present
	Interim City Manager Greg Thompson	Present
	City Attorney Gary Brandenburg	Present
	Sergeant At Arms Lieutenant Mugridge	Present
	City Clerk Tijauna Warner	Present

Additions, Deletions, and Approval of Agenda Items: *(none)*

Approval of Agenda as presented.

Motion by Vice-Mayor Bohlen. Seconded by Commissioner Perez.

Motion carried unanimously.

Citizen Comments (Agenda Items Only):

Mark Liskay read into the record an email from Coastal Network Solutions terminating the City of Pahokee as a client by repeated harassment of lawsuits by Attorney Gary Brandenburg and events that followed as a result. Discussion ensued reading the chain of events.

Robert Mitchell commented regarding the sublease of the restaurant at the Pahokee Marina. Discussion ensued; Attorney Brandenburg explained the circumstances regarding the lease option for the Marina. Mr. Lawler, Attorney representing JPDT Holdings provided clarification of the chain of events that led up to the postponing of the sublease; and read emails from Robert Lambert, Brad Richardson, and Gary Brandenburg. Mr. Lawler requested a waiver to prohibit further restrictions of the sublease. Discussion ensued; Commissioners Perez and Murvin expressed concerns regarding the chain of events.

Direct the City Manager to notify Brad Richardson that the City of Pahokee Requests to move forward with JPDT Holdings with no restrictions.

Motion by Commissioner Murvin, Seconded by Mayor Babb

No Vote

Attorney Brandenburg recommended the Commission add the item to the agenda to vote on the item. Commissioner Murvin amended her previous motion as follows.

Add JPDT Holdings Sublease to the Agenda

Motion by Commissioner Murvin, Seconded by Mayor Babb

Motion carried unanimously.

Direct the City Manager Thompson and Attorney Brandenburg to notify Brad Richardson that the City of Pahokee Requests to move forward with JPDT Holdings with no restrictions.
Motion by Commissioner Murvin, Seconded by Mayor Babb.
Motion carried unanimously.

Johnathan Mann expressed gratitude to the City of Pahokee Commission.

Ms. Cowan expressed concerns regarding the City Website, Public Records Requests, and the Employment of Interim City Manager Thompson.

Ms. Allen commended the Commission regarding their decision to move forward with JPDT Holdings.

Approval of Minutes:

1. **August 11, 2021 Special City Commission Meeting.**
2. **August 18, 2021 Special City Commission Meeting.**

Mayor Babb and Commissioner Murvin expressed concerns regarding the legal ability to conduct a meeting.

Approval of August 11th Special City Commission Meeting Minutes.
Motion by Vice Mayor Bohlen. Seconded by Commissioner Perez.
Motion carried 3-2.

Mayor Babb and Commissioner Murvin expressed concerns regarding the legal ability to conduct a meeting.

Approval of August 18th Special City Commission Meeting Minutes.
Motion by Vice Mayor Bohlen Seconded by Commissioner Perez.
Motion carried 3-2.

Consent Agenda: *(none)*

Ordinances:

Mr. Brandenburg read Ordinance 2021 -06 into the record and explained the purpose of the ordinance.

1. ORDINANCE 2021 – 06 (first reading) AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PAHOKEE, FLORIDA, DESIGNATING THE CITY CLERK AS THE CITY’S OFFICIAL REPRESENTATIVE IN ALL TRANSACTIONS WITH THE SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS IN RELATION TO MATTERS PERTAINING TO THE USE OF REGISTRATION BOOKS AND RECORDS FOR THE HOLDING OF ALL MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS; PROVIDING FOR THE CANVASSING BOARD OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, TO CANVASS ALL MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS, COMPOSITION OF CANVASSING BOARD; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR INCLUSION IN THE CODE OF ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Adoption of Ordinance 2021-06 (First Reading)
Motion by Vice Mayor Bohlen. Seconded by Commissioner Gonzalez.
Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution(s)

Mr. Brandenburg read Resolution 2021 -29 into the record and explained the purpose of the ordinance.

1.) RESOLUTION 2021 – 29 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PAHOKEE, FLORIDA, APPROVING A CONTRACT WITH TIJAUNA WARNER AS CITY CLERK EXHIBIT “A”; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Commissioner Murvin asked several questions regarding the above-mentioned Contract (salary, severance pay, at-will employment, just means termination); Attorney Brandenburg provided clarification for each question.

Approval of Resolution 2021-29.

Motion by Vice Mayor Bohlen. Seconded by Commissioner Perez.

Motion carried 3-2.

Mr. Brandenburg read Resolution 2021 -32 into the record. Interim City Manager Thompson explained the purpose of the resolution and announced that the City would receive \$3 Million.

2.) RESOLUTION 2021 – 32 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PAHOKEE, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE AN AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT CORONAVIRUS LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUND AGREEMENT, ATTACHED HERETO AS EXHIBIT “A”; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Approval of Resolution 2021-32.

Motion by Vice Mayor Bohlen. Seconded by Commissioner Gonzalez.

Motion carried unanimously.

Public Hearings

Mr. Brandenburg read Resolution 2021 -30 into the record and explained the purpose of the resolution.

1.) RESOLUTION 2021 – 30 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PAHOKEE, FLORIDA, ADOPTING A TENTATIVE MILLAGE RATE FOR FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING OCTOBER 1, 2021, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2022, PURSUANT TO SECTION 200.065, FLORIDA STATUTES; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Sanquetta Cowan expressed concerns regarding the tentative millage rate and TRIM Notice. Attorney Brandenburg explained that the TRIM Notice had been approved; not the Millage Rate. He explained the above as the first reading of the tentative millage rate.

Richard Brown questioned if there would be interest on the millage Rate after adoption

Everett McPherson read a social media post regarding the TRIM Notice. He expressed that the behavior of the Commission was a disservice to the community.

Mayor Babb asked Attorney Brandenburg to provide an explanation of the difference between a TRIM Notice and Millage Rates. Attorney Brandenburg provided a thorough explanation.

Approval of Resolution 2021-30.

Motion by Vice Mayor Bohlen Seconded by Commissioner Gonzalez.

Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Brandenburg read Resolution 2021 -31 into the record and explained the purpose of the ordinance.

2.) RESOLUTION 2021 – 31 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 \$7,163,704.00 FOR THE CITY OF PAHOKEE, FLORIDA, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2021, AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2022; PROVIDING FOR ADOPTION OF REPRESENTATIONS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Interim City Manager Thompson welcomed Susan Gooding to present to the Commission; discussion ensued regarding salaries and vacant positions. Ms. Gooding explained the purpose and process of budget amendments; brief discussions ensued regarding departmental budgets, expenditures, and proposed changes for the second reading of the budget.

Approval of Resolution 2021-31 with proposed changes.

Motion by Vice Mayor Bohlen. Seconded by Commissioner Perez.

Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Brandenburg read Ordinance 2021 -05 into the record and explained the purpose of the ordinance.

3.) ORDINANCE 2021 – 05 (second reading) AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PAHOKEE, FLORIDA, MODIFYING ARTICLE II, SECTION 2-26, CITY COMMISSION MEETINGS GENERALLY; COMPENSATION AND EXPENSE ALLOWANCE FOR CITY COMMISSION; ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS BY TELEPHONE OR OTHER ELECTRONIC MEANS; ORDER OF BUSINESS; CITY COMMISSIONERS' VOTES RECORDED ON ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS; ORDER, VOTES REQUIRED TO PASS RESOLUTIONS; CLERK DESIGNATED CUSTODIAN, DUTIES; REMOVING OR WITHHOLDING FROM CUSTODIAN; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR INCLUSION IN THE CODE OF ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Discussion ensued regarding the standard order of business as it relates to Commissioner comments and the Mayor's Report to conclude meetings.

Otis Harvey commented regarding the Mayor's Report and order of business.

Adoption of Ordinance 2021-05.

Motion by Vice Mayor Bohlen. Seconded by Commissioner Gonzalez.

Motion carried 3-2.

Proclamations:

1. Bishop Bud Mickins Jr.- *Attorney Brandenburg read the proclamation aloud.*

Adoption of the Proclamation for Bishop Bud Mickins Jr.

Motion by Vice Mayor Bohlen Seconded by Commissioner Gonzalez.

Motion carried unanimously.

2. Lakeside Medical Center's Birthing Center- *Attorney Brandenburg read the proclamation aloud.*

Adoption of the Proclamation for Lakeside Medical Center-Birthing Center.

Motion by Vice Mayor Bohlen Seconded by Commissioner Gonzalez.

Motion carried unanimously.

Presentations:

1. Gehring Group-Health Insurance

Interim City Manager Thompson introduced Cliff Gehring of Gehring Group and explained that the recommendation was to continue a contractual agreement with Florida Blue. Mr. Gehring explained the responsibilities of the Gehring Group and their efforts to assist employees of the City of Pahokee.

Approval of Gehring Group Insurance.

Motion by Vice Mayor Bohlen. Seconded by Commissioner Gonzalez.

Motion carried unanimously.

Report of the Mayor:

Mayor Babb announced that he was proud of the City's accomplishments and progress over the previous six years. He challenged the Commission to continue in a supportive and positive manner and improve the quality of life for the residents of Pahokee.

Report of the City Manager:

Interim City Manager Thompson announced a summary of the State of the City; projects, grants, repairs, and invoices.

Report of the City Attorney:

1. Update on Litigation Matters

Attorney Brandenburg provided an update regarding Sara Perez vs. the City of Pahokee.

Old Business *(none)*

New Business:

1. Observed Holidays 2021-2022

Discussion ensued; Per Consensus, the discussion was tabled to a future Regular Commission Meeting.

Citizens Comments: *(none)*

City Commission Comments: *(none)*

For the Good of the Order (Community Events, Feel Good Announcements).

Adjourn

There being no further business to discuss, Mayor Babb adjourns the meeting at 11:48 p.m.

Keith W. Babb, Jr., Mayor

ATTEST: Tijauna Warner, City Clerk