

# CITY OF PAHOKEE



## MINUTES

**City Commission Regular Meeting**  
Tuesday, March 26, 2024, 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  
Tijauna Warner, City Clerk  
Burnadette Norris-Weeks, Esq., City Attorney  
Joseph R. Martin, Interim Director of Finance

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## MINUTES

### A. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Babb at 6:02 PM.

### B. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Vice Mayor Murvin led the invocation, which was followed by the recitation of 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  
City Manager Rodney D. Lucas  
Acting City Attorney Chan Bryant Abney  
City Clerk Tijauna Warner

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

Commissioner Gonzalez requested moving the commissioners comments to the beginning of the meeting.

Motion made by Commissioner Gonzalez to approve moving commissioners comments up to the beginning of the meeting, 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

Mr. Lucas requested adding Resolution 2024 - 08 to the agenda and having presentations & proclamations move up before public comments.

Motion made by Vice Mayor Murvin approve adding Resolution 2024 - 08 to the agenda and rearrange the agenda to reflect commissioners comments, presentations, proclamations, then public comments, Seconded by Commissioner Boldin. Mayor Babb called for questions. Commissioner Perez inquired why was she receiving these documents at the last minute. Motion passed 4-1.

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

Voting Nay: 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)*

1. Glades Lives Matter - Lavita Holmes, Executive Director

*Mrs. Holmes gave an overview of Glades Lives Matter and their events this year. Ms. Lashay Scott gave her experience as a member of Glades Lives Matter and thanked Mrs. Holmes for the opportunity.*

2. Business of the Month (February 2024) - Cricket Wireless  
*Mayor Babb and the City Commission presented Cricket Wireless with a certificate for Business of the Month.*
3. Lawn of the Month (February 2024) - Irene Noel Est, Darren Coney, & Shirley R Coney  
*Vice Mayor Murvin and the City Commission presented Mrs. Coney with a certificate for Lawn of Month.*
4. Proclamation - March 2024 as Florida Bicycle Month
5. Proclamation - April as Water Conservation Month

Annie Coore expressed concerns with Commissioner Perez's language and friendship.

Loletha Kimes inquired about the status of residents' work beginning completed on their homes and Commissioner Gonzalez.

Robert Love expressed concerns with Mr. Lucas and the City Commission.

Commissioner Gonzalez expressed concerns with Robert Love's comments and with Commissioner Perez violating the Sunshine Law.

Commissioner Boldin had no comment.

Commissioner Perez had no comment.

Vice Mayor Murvin advised she has never taken a bribe.

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

1. February 13, 2024 City Commission Meeting Minutes
2. February 27, 2024 City Commission Meeting Minutes

Motion made by Vice Mayor Murvin to approve Consent Agenda Items, Seconded by Commissioner Boldin. Mayor Babb called for questions. Motion passed 4-1.

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

Voting Nay: Commissioner Perez

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

None.

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

None.

#### **I. RESOLUTION(S)**

- A. RESOLUTION 2024 - 07 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PAHOKEE FLORIDA APPROVING CHANGE ORDER NO. 25, ATTACHED HERETO AS EXHIBIT "A", RELATING TO CITY OF PAHOKEE RESOLUTION #2016-20 FOR COORDINATION OF ROAD AND UTILITY

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CONSTRUCTION FOR THE BARFIELD HIGHWAY RECONSTRUCTION  
PROJECT; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Ms. Abney read Resolution 2024 - 07 into the record.

Mr. Lucas gave a brief explanation of Resolution 2024 - 07.

Motion made by Commissioner Boldin to approve Resolution 2024 - 07, Seconded by Vice Mayor Murvin. Mayor Babb called for questions. Motion passed 4-1.

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

Voting Nay: Commissioner Perez

Ms. Abney read Resolution 2024 - 08 into the record.

Mr. Lucas gave a brief explanation of Resolution 2024 - 08.

Motion made by Commissioner Boldin to approve Resolution 2024 - 08, Seconded by Vice Mayor Murvin. Mayor Babb called for questions. A discussion ensued. Motion passed 4-1.

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

Voting Nay: Commissioner Perez

Commissioner Gonzalez requested to resend his vote on Resolution 2024 - 07.

Motion made by Commissioner Gonzalez to rescind his vote on Resolution 2024 - 07.

Motion failed due to lack of a second.

**J. NEW BUSINESS** (*presentation by city manager of activity or upcoming event, if any*)

1. Discussion of creating an ordinance for residential, commercial, and blight buildings - Commissioner Boldin

Mr. Lucas gave staff recommendations for creating an ordinance for residential, commercial, and blighted buildings. A discussion ensued.

2. Discussion to rearrange the agenda - Mayor Babb

Mayor Babb requested changing public comments to agenda items only and adding general comments to the end of the commission meeting. A discussion ensued.

Motion made by Mayor Babb to approve bringing an ordinance back to the next city commission meeting to rearrange the agenda layout, 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

**K. REPORT OF THE MAYOR**

Mayor Babb gave a brief presentation on the positive aspects of the City of Pahokee and asked everyone to work with the City to change the narrative of our community.

**L. REPORT OF THE CITY MANAGER**

Mr. Lucas gave a brief update on current projects, outstanding items in progress, and upcoming meetings.

**M. REPORT OF THE CITY ATTORNEY**

None.

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**N. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS OF COMMISSIONERS, IF ANY**

Commissioner Boldin suggested discussing transitional housing and services for the homeless people in the city.

Mayor Babb requested developing a no-comment policy. A discussion ensued.

**O. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS AND FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER** (*community events, feel good announcements, if any*)

Mayor Babb wished all the candidates running for office good luck and thanked them for wanting to represent their city.

Vice Mayor Murvin advised everyone to keep Ms. Ethel Williams' Family (Survivor of the Storm of 1928) in their prayers as she passed away this week.

Commissioner Perez advised the people who are having issues with the contractors to call her and encouraged everyone to please come out and vote.

**P. ADJOURN**

Motion made by Vice Mayor Murvin to adjourn the commission meeting, Seconded by Commissioner Perez. Mayor Babb called for questions. Motion 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 8:19 PM.

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Keith W. Babb, Jr., Mayor

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ATTEST: Tijauna Warner, CMC, City Clerk