

# CITY OF WESTLAKE



## MINUTES

### **City Council Special Meeting**

Tuesday, July 16, 2024, at 5:30 PM

Westlake Council Chambers  
4005 Seminole Pratt Whitney Road  
Westlake, Florida 33470

#### **CITY COUNCIL:**

JohnPaul O'Connor, Mayor  
Greg Langowski, Vice Mayor  
Gary Werner, Council Member – Seat 1  
Julian Martinez, Council Member – Seat 2  
Charlotte Leonard, Council Member – Seat 3

#### **CITY STAFF:**

Ken Cassel, City Manager  
Zoie P. Burgess, CMC, City Clerk  
Donald J. Doody, Esq., City Attorney  
Nilsa Zacarias, AICP, Planning and Zoning Director  
Suzanne Dombrowski, PE, ENV SP, City Engineer

A special meeting of the City Council of the City of Westlake was held on Tuesday, July 16, 2024, at 5:30 PM., at The Lodge at Westlake Adventure Park, 5490 Kingfisher Blvd. Members of the public also live streamed the meeting through electronic means and accessed as follows:

1. Webex Meeting: <https://cityofwestlake.my.webex.com/>

Meeting ID: 2632 047 7428

Password: hello

2. By Phone:

United States Toll: +1-650-479-3208

Meeting ID: 2632 047 7428

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor O'Connor called the City of Westlake Regular City Council meeting of Tuesday, July 16, 2024, to order at 5:30 PM.

**ROLL CALL**

Present and constituting a quorum:

Councilman Gary Werner  
Councilwoman Charlotte Leonard  
Mayor JohnPaul O'Connor

Absent but virtually present:

Councilman Julian Martinez  
Vice Mayor Greg Langowski

Also present:

Kenneth Cassel, City Manager  
Donald J. Doody, Esq., City Attorney  
Zoie Burgess, City Clerk

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor O'Connor led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ADDITIONS, DELETIONS OR MODIFICATIONS, AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Mayor O'Connor called for any additions, deletions, or modifications to the agenda.

There being none, Mayor O'Connor called for a motion to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion by Councilwoman Leonard to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Councilman Werner.

**UPON ROLL CALL:**

Councilman Werner	YES
Councilwoman Leonard	YES
Mayor O'Connor	YES

With all in favor, motion carried without dissent (3-0).

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No public comments.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

- A. SECOND READING** - ORDINANCE 2024-02 — Establishing Residency Prohibitions and Exceptions for Sexual Offenders and Sexual Predators

**Submitted By:** City Attorney's Office

**ORDINANCE NO. 2024-02**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF WESTLAKE, FLORIDA, ESTABLISHING CERTAIN RESIDENCY PROHIBITIONS AND EXCEPTIONS FOR SEXUAL OFFENDERS AND SEXUAL PREDATORS; PROVIDING FOR FINDINGS AND INTENT; PROVIDING FOR DEFINITIONS; PROVIDING FOR PENALTIES; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION, CONFLICTS, SEVERABILITY, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

Mayor O'Connor introduced the item.

Mr. Doody read the item, by title only, into the record.

Mayor O'Connor asked if there was any recommendation to amend the Ordinance as written.

Mr. Doody proposed amending the Ordinance on second reading to delete the reference to public libraries wherever it appears in the Ordinance.

Mayor O'Connor called for any Council comments.

Councilman Werner stated his understanding was that a legal challenge would come if we were to prohibit the residency of sexual offenders in the City. Councilman Werner then asked Mr. Doody if whether the Ordinance as written and as modified with the deletion of public libraries, would result in such a prohibition throughout City.

Mr. Doody explained the Ordinance in its current state is not to create a blanket prohibition, but to provide for restrictions with providing regulations within the state's statute if this Ordinance passes within 2500 feet of the designated areas.

Councilman Werner asked if there are other cities nearby or within the county that utilize the 2500 feet limitation. Mr. Doody stated he did an informal examination of certain cities referring to their Code of Ordinances, with respect to their 2500 feet distance requirements. Mr. Doody noted the following cities: City of Boca Raton, Wellington, Loxahatchee Groves, Palm Beach Gardens, and City of Boynton Beach all had 2500 feet distance requirements.

Mayor O'Connor called for any other Council comments.

City Clerk read memo into record from Vice Mayor Langowski.

Mayor O'Connor called for any public comments. Ms. Burgess stated no comment cards were received prior to the meeting. There being no further comments, Mayor O'Connor called for a motion.

Motion by Councilman Werner to amend the second reading of Ordinance 2024-02 by deleting references to public libraries, seconded by Councilwoman Leonard.

**UPON ROLL CALL:**

Councilwoman Leonard	YES
Mayor O'Connor	YES
Councilman Werner	YES

With all in favor, motion carried without dissent (3-0).

Motion by Councilwoman Leonard to adopt the Ordinance 2024-02 as amended, seconded by Councilman Werner.

**UPON ROLL CALL:**

Councilwoman Leonard	YES
Mayor O'Connor	YES
Councilman Werner	YES

With all in favor, motion carried without dissent (3-0).

**CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS**

- A. Councilwoman Charlotte Leonard - Councilwoman Leonard acknowledged that council has done what the community has asked them to do.
- B. Councilman Gary Werner – no comments
- C. Mayor JohnPaul O'Connor – Mayor O'Connor stated he believes they have done what is necessary to protect our children in this City.

**REPORT - CITY ATTORNEY**

No additional comments.

**REPORT - CITY MANAGER**

No comments.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No public comments.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Mayor O'Connor adjourned the meeting at 5:40 PM.