

CITY OF WESTLAKE



MINUTES

City Council Final Budget Hearing

Tuesday, September 12, 2023, at 6:00 PM

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

CITY COUNCIL:

JohnPaul O'Connor, Mayor
Greg Langowski, Vice Mayor
Pilar Valle Ron, 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 Final Budget Hearing of the City Council of the City of Westlake was held on Tuesday, September 12, 2023, at 6:00 PM., at the Westlake Community Center, 4005 Seminole Pratt Whitney Road. Members of the public also participated in the meeting through electronic means and accessed as follows:

1. Webex meeting from a computer, tablet or smartphone at the following link:
<https://cityofwestlake.my.webex.com/>

Meeting ID: 2633 808 4988

Password: hello

2. Participants also dialed in using phone with the following number:

United States Toll: +1-408-418-9388

Meeting ID: 2633 808 4988

As a preliminary matter, Ms. Ramirez noted that council members are present physically constituting a quorum. Councilmembers Julian Martinez and Pilar Valle Ron communicated before the hearing they will be attending virtually as they are unable to attend physically.

Ms. Ramirez provided further instruction regarding public comments, noting that comments will be acknowledged by the mayor and accepted at the appropriate times as indicated in the agenda and those who wish to speak may use the "virtual" hand raise feature.

Ms. Ramirez provided the disclaimer that the meeting is being recorded by both voice and video, reminding the audience microphones are live. Ms. Ramirez further explained that microphones will be muted; audience members can unmute themselves and anyone that has called in should mute their device.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor O'Connor called the City of Westlake City Council Final Budget Hearing of Tuesday September 12, 2023, to order at 6:01 PM.

ROLL CALL

Present and constituting a quorum:

Councilwoman Charlotte Leonard
Councilman Julian Martinez (Via Electronic Media Technology)
Councilwoman Pilar Valle Ron (Via Electronic Media Technology)
Vice Mayor Greg Langowski
Mayor JohnPaul O'Connor

Also present:

Kenneth Cassel, City Manager
Sean M. Swartz, Esq., City Attorney
Mery Ramirez, Recording 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 no changes, Mayor O'Connor called for a motion to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion by Vice Mayor Langowski to approve the agenda, seconded by Councilwoman Leonard.

UPON ROLL CALL:

Councilwoman Leonard	YES
Vice Mayor Langowski	YES
Mayor O'Connor	YES

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

PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS

A. Proclamation 2023-10 - Hunger Action Month - October 2023

Mayor O'Connor identified the Proclamation that was previously approved by council and read the proclamation into the record.

Next item followed.

B. Proclamation 2023-12 - Hispanic Heritage Month

Mayor O'Connor identified the Proclamation that was previously approved by council and read the proclamation into the record.

Next item followed.

PUBLIC HEARING

A. RESOLUTION 2023-26 – Adoption of Final Millage Rate for Fiscal Year 2024

Submitted By: Administration

Mayor O'Connor introduced the item.

Mr. Swartz read Resolution 2023-26 into record, by title only.

Mr. Cassel stated the Millage Rate is 5.0 mills, 19.067 percent above Trim Rate. The millage rate has been lowered by .1.

Mayor O'Connor called for council comments. There being none, Mayor O'Connor stated he challenged staff to find the funds to lower the millage rate and they were able to do so. Mayor O'Connor thanked staff.

Mayor O'Connor called for public comments.

Ms. Ramirez noted there were no comment cards, however, gave the virtual audience a moment to comment.

There being no further comments, Mayor O'Connor called for a motion.

Motion by Vice Mayor Langowski to approve Resolution 2023-26, Adoption of Final Millage Rate for Fiscal Year 2024, seconded by Councilwoman Leonard.

UPON ROLL CALL:

Vice Mayor Langowski	YES
Mayor O'Connor	YES
Councilwoman Leonard	YES

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

B. RESOLUTION 2023-27 - Adoption of Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2024

Submitted By: Administration

Mayor O'Connor introduced item.

Mr. Swartz read Resolution 2023-27 into record, by title only.

Mr. Cassel stated there has been no change in the budget since the last budget hearing.

Mayor O'Connor called for council comments. There being none, Mayor O'Connor called for public comments.

Ms. Ramirez noted there were no comment cards, however, gave the virtual audience a moment to comment.

There being no further comments, Mayor O'Connor called for a motion.

Motion by Vice Mayor Langowski to approve Resolution 2023-27, Adoption of Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2024, seconded by Councilwoman Leonard.

UPON ROLL CALL:

Mayor O'Connor	YES
Councilwoman Leonard	YES
Vice Mayor Langowski	YES

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

CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS

A. Councilwoman Charlotte Leonard - Ms. Leonard had no additional comments.

B. Councilman Julian Martinez - Mr. Martinez had no additional comments.

C. Councilwoman Pilar Valle Ron - Ms. Valle Ron had no additional comments.

D. Vice Mayor Greg Langowski – Mr. Langowski asked staff to think of any city projects the council can bring to the legislative delegation and state officials that may need to be promoted and funded.

E. Mayor JohnPaul O'Connor – Mr. O'Connor thanked staff for lowering the milage rate from 5.1 to 5.0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND REQUESTS

Mayor O'Connor called for public comments.

Ms. Ramirez stated no comment cards were received prior to the meeting and gave the virtual audience a moment to raise their virtual hand.

There being no further comments, Mayor O'Connor called for the next item.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mayor O'Connor adjourned the meeting at 6:12 PM.

Zoie P. Burgess, City Clerk

JohnPaul O'Connor, Mayor