

CITY OF WESTLAKE



MINUTES

City Council Regular Meeting

Tuesday, July 11, 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 regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Westlake was held on Tuesday, July 11, 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: 2632 888 9851

Password: hello

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

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

Meeting ID: 2632 888 9851

As a preliminary matter, Ms. Burgess noted that council members are present physically constituting a quorum.

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

Ms. Burgess noted that anyone causing a disruption or being inappropriate will be removed from the meeting. Ms. Burgess reminded Council Members physically present to utilize microphones.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor O'Connor called the City of Westlake Regular City Council meeting of Tuesday July 11, 2023, to order at 6:01 PM.

ROLL CALL

Present and constituting a quorum:

Councilwoman Charlotte Leonard
Councilman Julian Martinez
Councilwoman Pilar Valle Ron
Vice Mayor Greg Langowski
Mayor JohnPaul O'Connor

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.

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
Councilman Martinez	YES
Councilwoman Valle Ron	YES
Vice Mayor Langowski	YES
Mayor O'Connor	YES

With all in favor, motion carried without dissent (5-0).

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND REQUESTS

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 Council, state your name and address for the record.

Mayor O'Connor called for public comments.

Ms. Burgess noted there were no public comment cards received prior to the meeting and gave the virtual audience a moment to comment.

There being no further comments, the next item followed.

CONSENT AGENDA

This section of the agenda consists of routine or administrative items that require final approval by the City Council and may be approved in its entirety by a single motion. There will be no discussion of these items unless a Council Member, requests such, in which event, the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered on a future agenda.

- A. Monthly Financial Report - May
- B. Minutes_City Council Regular Meeting - 06.06.2023 DRAFT

Mayor O'Connor identified the consent agenda items and called for a motion to approve.

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

UPON ROLL CALL:

Councilman Martinez	YES
Councilwoman Valle Ron	YES
Vice Mayor Langowski	YES
Mayor O'Connor	YES
Councilwoman Leonard	YES

With all in favor, motion carried without dissent (5-0).

PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS

- A. Palm Beach County Commission on Ethics Annual Overview

Presented By: Gina A. Levesque, CFE, Intake and Compliance Manager

Mayor O'Connor identified the Palm Beach County Commission on Ethics Annual Overview presented by Intake and Compliance Manager, Gina Levesque.

Ms. Levesque gave an annual overview on the Palm Beach County Commission on Ethics.

Mayor O'Connor moved to the next item that followed.

- B. Proclamation 2023-05 - Habitat for Humanity

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

Next item followed.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Fourth Addendum to the Law Enforcement Service Agreement - Adding a Deputy

Submitted By: Administration

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-16

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WESTLAKE, FLORIDA, APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OR VICE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE FOURTH ADDENDUM TO THE LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF WESTLAKE AND THE SHERIFF OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mayor O'Connor introduced item.

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

Mayor O'Connor called for any staff or council comments. Mr. Cassel discussed the Fourth Addendum to the Law Enforcement Service Agreement that adds an additional Deputy to patrol the city. This will provide the City with two officers on duty at all times.

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

Motion by Vice Mayor Langowski to approve Resolution 2023-16, seconded by Councilman Martinez.

UPON ROLL CALL:

Councilwoman Valle Ron	YES
Vice Mayor Langowski	YES
Mayor O'Connor	YES
Councilwoman Leonard	YES
Councilman Martinez	YES

With all in favor, motion carried without dissent (5-0).

- B. Fifth Addendum to the Law Enforcement Service Agreement - Fiscal Year 2024 Cost

Submitted By: Administration

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-17

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WESTLAKE, FLORIDA, APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OR VICE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE FIFTH ADDENDUM TO THE LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF WESTLAKE AND THE SHERIFF OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mayor O'Connor introduced item.

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

Mayor O'Connor called for any staff or council comments. Mr. Cassel explained a fifth addendum was needed to authorize the Mayor or Vice Mayor to execute the Service Agreement that adds the additional Deputy to patrol the City.

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

Motion by Councilwoman Valle Ron to approve Resolution 2023-17, seconded by Councilman Martinez.

UPON ROLL CALL:

Vice Mayor Langowski	YES
Mayor O'Connor	YES
Councilwoman Leonard	YES
Councilman Martinez	YES
Councilwoman Valle Ron	YES

With all in favor, motion carried without dissent (5-0).

- C. Proposed Millage Rate for the Fiscal Year 2024 Ad Valorem Tax and a Date, Time and Place for the First Public Budget Hearing

Submitted By: Finance

RESOLUTION 2023-15

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WESTLAKE, FLORIDA, ADOPTING A PROPOSED MILLAGE RATE FOR THE CITY'S GENERAL OPERATING FUND FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2023 AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 20, 2024; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mayor O'Connor introduced item.

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

Mayor O'Connor called for any staff or council comments.

Mr. Cassel discussed the proposed millage rate. Mayor O'Connor expressed his concerns of wanting to have a workshop before the first budget hearing was held. Mayor O'Connor stated he would prefer to have multiple budget workshops before a budget hearing to help discuss all items in detail.

Council and City Manager discussed the proposed rate and council's desire to keep it the same.

Council agreed to cancel the budget workshop scheduled for July 25th, and rescheduled for August 1, 2023 at 4:30 PM.

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

Motion by Councilman Martinez to approve Resolution 2023-15 to set the millage rate at 5.1 mills and setting the first public hearing for September 5, 2023 at 6:00PM, seconded by Councilwoman Valle Ron.

UPON ROLL CALL:

Mayor O'Connor	YES
Councilwoman Leonard	YES
Councilman Martinez	YES
Councilwoman Valle Ron	YES
Vice Mayor Langowski	YES

With all in favor, motion carried without dissent (5-0).

CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS

A. Councilwoman Charlotte Leonard – Ms. Leonard commented on the FourthFest, she thanked the planning committee and all they did to bring the event to the city.

B. Councilman Julian Martinez – Mr. Martinez thanked the staff for the FourthFest event.

C. Councilwoman Pilar Valle Ron – Ms. Valle Ron stated she did not attend the Fourth of July event but heard great things from residents and the surrounding areas.

D. Vice Mayor Greg Langowski – Vice Mayor O'Connor discussed a few proclamations he wanted to present. Vice Mayor Langowski requested council to present a proclamation for Patriots Day to celebrate the 22nd anniversary of 9/11, council consensus. Vice Mayor Langowski requested to present a proclamation for Constitution Week which takes place this year starting September 17 through September 23, dedicating, and honoring the constitution of the United States, council consensus. Vice Mayor Langowski requested a proclamation that would be in conjunction with the Florida League of Cities to recognize government week to take place October 16 through October 22, council consensus. Lastly, Vice Mayor Langowski requested a proclamation for Veterans Day for November 11, council also consensus.

E. Mayor JohnPaul O'Connor – Mayor O'Connor discussed FourthFest and stated it was a success. Mayor O'Connor also thanked staff. Council discussed the success of FourthFest and behind the scenes staff that made everything come together.

REPORT - STAFF

A. Palm Beach County Fire Rescue Response Time Reports - June 2023

Mayor O'Connor called for District Chief Vomero to discuss response time report.

District Chief Vomero addressed a resident's concern regarding an extended delayed response that was brought up at the last council meeting. Ms. Vomero confirmed the delay was significant due to the rescue crew responding to the wrong gate without a Knox key. Ms. Vomero discussed updates that have been made to reduce the response times and confirmed all gates were tested for click to enter.

Palm Beach County Fire Rescue District Chief, Amanda Vomero, discussed the call volume and response times for the month of June.

Mayor O'Connor called for Lieutenant. Lieutenant Demarzo stated FourthFest was a success, and no incidents were reported. Lieutenant Demarzo discussed the monthly report.

Council discussed the use of click to enter with Palm Beach Sheriff's Office.

REPORT - CITY ATTORNEY

Mayor O'Connor called for City Attorney, Donald Doody.

Mr. Doody discussed the memorandum he issued regarding the golf cart ordinance and the need to revise. Mr. Doody also stated a discussion was had with Councilwoman Leonard and the Education and Youth Advisory Board. Mr. Doody discussed his concerns for the board not being able to meet quarterly as stated per the ordinance as they have no basis to have a meeting.

Council discussed their concerns for the Education and Youth Advisory Board and the ordinance.

Mayor O'Connor asked if Ms. Anita Kaplan, who was in the audience, would come to the stand and help discuss the concerns regarding the Education and Youth Advisory Board.

Anita Kaplan – 5459 Santa Rosa Lane – Ms. Kaplan stated she believes a lot can be done with the Board but no meetings are being held. Council discussed the board and alternatives that can be made to help facilitate the members to help further education in the community. Mr. Doody stated his legal concerns regarding a city board committee operating outside of the municipal boundaries. Council discussed the schools in the city boundaries and schools the board would like to help.

Councilwoman Leonard asked if the ordinance can be reviewed, and this item be brought back to council.

Mayor O'Connor asked for the Education and Youth Advisory Board to be dissolved and encouraged Ms. Kaplan to form a volunteer Ad Hoc organization to do some good for education in the western communities.

REPORT - CITY MANAGER

Mr. Cassel stated he would like to shorten the FourthFest event time to have it start at 5:00 PM. Council discussed changing the timeframe of the event. Mr. Cassel also discussed the event expenses and the collection of sponsorship monies. Mayor O'Connor asked if the city could hire a company that deals with collecting money that specializes in municipal sponsorships. Mr. Cassel stated the budget includes adding an event coordinator to help plan future city events.

Mr. Cassel also discussed Mr. Doody's hourly rate and stated the rate was reviewed for other attorneys and he has advised them to raise Mr. Doody's rate to \$300 an hour as the current rate is \$250 hour.

Councilmember Martinez asked Mr. Cassel how the HAPPY program was going. Mr. Cassel stated the HAPPY program is being reviewed for modifications. Council discussed the HAPPY program and how to use the funds and requirements.

Ms. Burgess asked council for clarification on the action taken for the Education and Youth Advisory Board. Mr. Doody stated no action was taken at this time regarding the education board but he received a consensus from council of where to go and the item will be brought back to council at a future date.

Ms. Burgess asked for confirmation on the October meeting date for the HAPPY workshop. Council verified it will be held same day as the October council meeting earlier in the day at 5:00 PM.

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Mayor O'Connor called for public comments.

Ms. Burgess noted a comment card was received prior to the meeting.

Jackie Campbell – 15938 Key Biscayne Lane – Ms. Campbell asked Lieutenant Demarzo from the Palm Beach Sheriff's Office if the gate behind the Cresswind Community could be monitored as the gate is currently open and accessible to the public. Lieutenant Demarzo stated the area is being patrolled and stated he will make sure to add an extra patrol in the area to prevent trespassers. Lieutenant Demarzo also stated maybe Cresswind could add some cones to block off the area until the gate is closed and up and running. Ms. Campbell asked council if there is anything in place or being worked on for transportation. Mayor O'Connor stated per Palm Tran there are currently no plans to provide public transportation in this region. Mayor O'Connor stated, adding the transportation services in the City would cost the city a large amount of funding. Mayor O'Connor advised Ms. Campbell to try and contact transportation on-demand anytime she needs assistance and to attend county and commission meetings so they can see there are interested parties in the area for these services. Council continued to discuss Ms. Campbell's concern regarding transportation.

Gary Werner – 16005 Key Biscayne Lane – Mr. Werner congratulated the success of FourthFest. Mr. Werner also wanted to congratulate the implementation of the Citizens Observers Patrol program and their current 15 volunteers. Mr. Werner stated they are in place to observe and call in any suspicious activities.

Ms. Burgess gave the virtual audience a moment to comment.

There being no further comments, next item followed.

Councilman Martinez asked if Cresswind had a back gate. Council clarified there is a back gate at the moment, but it is not functional.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mayor O'Connor adjourned the meeting at 7:35 PM.

Zoie P. Burgess, City Clerk

JohnPaul O'Connor, Mayor