

Regular City Commission Meeting (Tuesday, September 19, 2023)

Generated by Hayden Page on Tuesday, September 19, 2023

A. MEETING OPENER

Procedural: 1. Call To Order - Roll Call

In Attendance:

**City Commission-Commissioner Redman, Commissioner Huggins, Vice Mayor Hendrix, Mayor Stegall
City Staff: City Attorney Maines, Interim City Clerk Page
Absent - Commissioner Sirmones**

Procedural: 2. Opening Prayer

Opening Prayer led by Commissioner Redman.

Procedural: 3. Pledge of Allegiance

Pledge of Allegiance led by Mayor Stegall.

Action: 4. Approval of The Agenda Format

Recommended Action: Motion to approve the agenda format.

Motion to approve the agenda format was made by Commissioner Redman. Seconded by Vice Mayor Hendrix. Unanimous approval. Motion carried.

Discussion: 5. Presentation of Letters from Ms. Menz's Class at Lake Butler Middle School

Ms. Alexa Menz from Lake Butler Middle School is here this evening with her 6th grade gifted students to present letters to the City Commission on how they believe the City can be improved.

Ms. Menz explains that her students are working on a project that provides the board with ideas to improve the City.

Several of her students present their ideas to the board.

The board generously thanks Ms. Menz and the gifted students for presenting their ideas and suggestions.

B. CITIZEN INPUT

Information: 1. Provision for Citizen Input

**-Matthew Andrews, recent employee of City of Lake Butler.
9505 SW 154th Court
Lake Butler, FL 32054**

**-Requested his job back, after having to leave due to a medical injury that occurred.
Provided letters of recommendation from his previous supervisor and coworker.**

C. REPORT OF MAYOR

Discussion, Information: 1. Mayor's Report September 2023

Mayor Stegall provides his report to the board for information only.

D. MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT

Action, Discussion: 1. Financial Report for period October 1, 2022 through August 31, 2023

Recommended Action: Motion to approve financial report for period October 1, 2022 through July 31, 2023.

Motion to approve financial report for period October 1, 2022 through August 31, 2023 was made by Commissioner Redman. Seconded by Vice Mayor Hendrix. Unanimous approval. Motion carried.

E. AGENDA ITEM NUMBER

Action (Consent), Discussion, Information: 1. Consent Agenda

Recommended Action: Motion to approve the consent agenda in one motion.

Vice Mayor Hendrix recommended that if the animal control truck is sold, than the money can be recorded in the same board-approved restricted cash account.

The board requested that the vehicle be looked into to see if it was awarded by Alachua County.

Motion to approve the consent agenda in one motion made by Vice Mayor Hendrix. Seconded by Commissioner Redman. Unanimous approval. Motion carried.

Discussion: 2. Request to speak to City Commission - Debbie Cook Thomas

Ms. Cook-Thomas stated that she adores the Union Depot building.

Stated that she put in a lot of work to renovate the Union Depot building.

Stated that she deals with drug paraphernalia as well as security to protect the Depot building.

Stated that she also deals with alcoholics as well.

Stated that she deals with several cat problems as well.

Stated that she offers water and snacks to the dozen or so hikers that come through every year.

Stated that she is struggling with this adjustment.

Stated that when she moved in, she put a \$500 deposit down, and also a \$500 rental, and requested a copy of the payments made in her tenure renting the building.

Stated that she received a notice for renewing the occupational license and asked if that would be required with the circumstances.

Stated that she had medical problems that did not allow her to reach out to the City.

The board approved an extension for Cook and Associates to the weekend of October 7th and 8th.

Action, Discussion: 3. Speed Bump Request - NE 8th Avenue

Recommended Action: Motion to authorize Chairman Ryan Perez and Union County to install speed bumps on NE 8th Avenue that would be at no cost to the City for any and all materials or labor.

Vice Mayor Hendrix explains that she received a call from Chairman Ryan Perez about excessive speeding on NE 8th Avenue.

City Attorney Maines stated that NE 8th Avenue is a road that is divided between city and county limits, and that it was recollected that FDOT funding was used for repaving the road.

Vice Mayor Hendrix commented that NW 3rd Street has speed bumps and is a state road and county road.

City Attorney Maines stated that the question arisen is what happened to the speed bumps once the road has been repaved, and that this could be researched into.

Motion to table this agenda item was made by Vice Mayor Hendrix. Seconded by Commissioner Huggins. Unanimous approval. Motion carried.

Action, Discussion: 4. American Pharmacists Month October 2023 Proclamation

Recommended Action: Motion to proclaim October 2023 as American Pharmacists Month.

Mr. William Garst from Lake Butler Hospital is here this evening requesting October 2023 to be American Pharmacists Month in lieu of a proclamation.

Mr. Garst reads the proclamation to the board.

Mr. Garst explains the community involvement with pharmacies.

Motion to proclaim October 2023 as American Pharmacists Month was made by Vice Mayor Hendrix. Seconded by Commissioner Redman. Unanimous approval. Motion carried.

Action, Discussion: 5. Legal Services Contract between John E. Maines, IV P.A. and City of Lake Butler

Recommended Action: Motion to approve the legal services contract between John E. Maines, IV P.A and City of Lake Butler for period October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2026.

Commissioner Redman asked for clarification on the rate changes.

Motion to approve the legal services contract between John E. Maines, IV P.A and City of Lake Butler for period October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2026 was made by Commissioner Redman. Seconded by Vice Mayor Hendrix. Unanimous approval. Motion carried.

Action, Discussion: 6. Townsend Green Building Roof Repair

Recommended Action: Motion to approve the temporary roof repair quote from Energy Roofing for \$1,875.00.

Vice Mayor Hendrix raised concern with the grant that was applied for that had misinformation within the grant application.

Motion to approve the expenditure of \$1,875.00 was made by Vice Mayor Hendrix. Seconded by Commissioner Redman. Unanimous approval. Motion carried.

Discussion, Information: 7. Townsend Green Building Floor Situation

Mayor Stegall requested this agenda item be added for information only.

Action, Discussion: 8. Resolution No. 2023-07 Water & Sewer Rate Increase for the 2023-2024 Fiscal Year
Recommended Action: Motion to approve Resolution No. 2023-07 for increasing the water and sewer rates for the 2023-2024 Fiscal Year to be read by title only by City Attorney Maines.

Motion to approve Resolution No. 2023-07 for increasing the water and sewer rates for the 2023-2024 Fiscal Year to be read by title only by City Attorney Maines was made by Vice Mayor Hendrix.

Title only read by City Attorney Maines.

Seconded by Commissioner Redman. Unanimous approval. Motion carried.

Action, Discussion: 9. Board Consideration and Discussion on selection of Public Works Director position
Recommended Action: Motion to select the board-desired applicant for the position of Public Works Director and for the applicant to begin their employment on the date the board selects.

Mayor Stegall provided the board with his recommendations with 3 applicants, being Mark Meyers, Mathew Kelley, and Alonzo Cal Stewart, Sr.

Commissioner Redman stated that one of the 3 provided resumes/applications did not have a salary range.

City Attorney Maines provided the board with ways that this can be handled by the board, and that the board can proceed with this however they would deem appropriate.

Commissioner Huggins asked Mayor Stegall for his perspective from conducting the interviews with the 3 above referenced applicants.

Motion to select Mathew Kelley as Public Works Director was made by Vice Mayor Hendrix. Seconded by Commissioner Huggins.

**In Favor:
Commissioner Huggins
Vice Mayor Hendrix
Mayor Stegall**

**Opposed:
Commissioner Redman**

**Absent:
Commissioner Sirmones**

Motion passed 3-1. The board therefore selects Mathew Kelley as Public Works Director.

Mayor Stegall repeatedly banged the gavel to restore order with a member from the crowd becoming irate and verbally assaulting the board.

Motion to set a salary of \$45,000 and at 6 months, to be a 10% increase to \$49,500 was made by Vice Mayor Hendrix. Seconded by Commissioner Redman. Unanimous approval. Motion carried.

F. REPORT OF CITY ATTORNEY

City Attorney Maines stated that he had been approached by several board members regarding a commissioner becoming City Manager and referenced the ordinance that prohibits a commissioner from being a city manager until a year after they were out of office.

City Attorney Maines stated he has researched this process and provision.

Vice Mayor Hendrix stated that it could do no harm to researching this inquiry and investigating the process required to proceed.

Due to no further comments from the rest of the board, City Attorney Maines will not proceed with this inquiry at this time.

G. COMMENTS OR REMARKS BY COMMISSION

Commissioner Redman -Next Farm Share October 14, 2023. September Farmshare served 226 families.

Commissioner Huggins -Has a couple of items. Spoke with Commissioner Mac Johns. Asked about the rescheduling of the Ethics class. Road by LB hospital and bus garage needs attention.

Vice Mayor Hendrix - Thanks the City Hall Staff Hayden, Elaine, and Dave that assisted with the budget.

Mayor Stegall - Thanks Dave Mecusker with helping the City with the budget and thanks the Public Works Department for helping out.

H. ADJOURNMENT

Action: 1. Adjourn

Recommended Action: Motion to adjourn.

Motion to adjourn made by Vice Mayor Hendrix. Seconded by Commissioner Redman. Unanimous approval. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:27pm.