

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

A Regular Council Meeting was held on February 14, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall.

President Knight called the meeting to order. Roll call was taken. Present were members Kenneth Burgess, Jodi Wilkeson, Alan Knight, Charles Proctor, Lance Smith and Mayor Whitfield. City Manager William Poe and City Attorney Matthew Maggard were also present.

Staff present: Police Lieutenant Nathan Gardner, Public Works Director Shane LeBlanc, HR Director Sandra Amerson, CRA Director Gail Hamilton, Public Information Officer Kevin Weiss and City Clerk Lori Hillman.

Pastor Russell Guynn with Family of God Baptist Church gave the Invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

1. CONSENT ITEM

1.1 Approval of January 24, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes

Charles Proctor moved to approve the Consent Item. Seconded by Kenneth Burgess. Motion passed unanimously.

BUSINESS ITEMS

2. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

2.1 Upcoming Charter Review

City Manager William Poe advised City Council is required to formally review the City's Charter every five years and amend in accordance with Florida Statute Section 166.031. The last Charter review was brought before Council in April 2017 with no amendments. He recommended each Council member appoint a citizen to serve on the Charter Review Committee with the Council as a whole selecting the final member. The Mayor will serve as the Chairman for a total of seven (7) members. Staff will contract with an individual or firm specializing in Charter Review. The proposed amendments will be voted on by the electors of the municipality. Staff will bring Charter guidelines and information to the next meeting to select a Charter Review Committee.

2.2 Founder's Day Parade Update

This item was pulled from the agenda.

3. CITIZEN COMMENTS

3.1 Sergeant Major James Laferriere - Zephyrhills High School JROTC Service Project

Cadet Command Sergeant Major James Laferriere, Lieutenant Colonel Zachariah Arnold and Captain Aiden Macumber were in attendance.

Cadet Captain Aiden Macumber presented a PowerPoint briefing of the 2022 Project Patriotism Service-Learning Project at Oakside Cemetery to clean Veterans' headstones and conduct a flag burning ceremony with the presentation of colors by the Honor Guard. He asked for Council's support with cleaning supplies (bleach, soap, brushes and rubber gloves) and donations for transportation and meals. He requested a representative from Council attend the event on Friday, February 25th at 9:45 a.m.

City Manager William Poe said the City will donate the supplies requested.

Councilwoman Wilkeson moved to donate \$300.00 to the Cadets Oakside Cemetery headstone cleaning project. Seconded by Lance Smith. Motion passed unanimously.

Pastor Russell Guynn with the Family of God Baptist Church will match the City's donation of \$300.00 to the JROTC.

This item was added to the agenda

4. PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER UPDATE

4.1 Public Information Officer Kevin Weiss narrated a PowerPoint presentation of updates to the City's Website to include a still of downtown Main Street, a business tab with information

for new residents and prospective businesses, a link tree account to promote social media pages, a community news page with visuals for recycling and Z-carts, a podcast button (a microphone next to the existing Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and YouTube images) that links to Spotify to access MP3 audios of Council meetings, and nextdoor to notify residents of upcoming meetings with easy access to links. He said he is working on a long-term project of creating a brand strategy to identify the City. The City has previously been known as the City of Pure Water and Skydiving Haven and suggested pushing out information on the City's World Class Tennis Center.

MAYOR ANNOUNCEMENTS – Mayor Whitfield thanked the JROTC Cadets for their presentation and Pastor Russell Guynn for matching the City's donation in support of the Cadets. He recognized local Girl Scout Riley Wheat who cleaned 40 headstones for her Girl Scout Gold Award.

CITY MANAGER ANNOUNCEMENTS – City Manager William Poe said he traveled to Tallahassee last week to attend the Legislative Action Days with Councilman Burgess, Council President Knight and members from the Chamber of Commerce. They met with Senator Burgess, Representative Maggard, Representative Marino and Senator Simpson to remind them of the City's appropriation requests and thank them for their support. He reminded Council that Planning Director Todd Vande Berg will reach out to schedule individual meetings. He said the City submitted a photo of City Hall at night taken by Library Director Lori Brightwell into a state-wide City contest and Zephyrhills placed third.

CITY ATTORNEY ANNOUNCEMENTS – City Attorney Matthew Maggard said he and Danny Burgess have dissolved their law firm and joined the firm of Shumaker, Luke and Kendrick in Tampa. They will remain in their current office in Dade City with the ability to provide better service through additional resources effective immediately. He said his older brother is a professor at Auburn University and congratulated him publicly for being awarded tenure.

CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS – Councilman Burgess said it's nice to visit our representatives in a professional setting. He thanked Pastor Russell Guynn and his church for their generous offer of matching the City's donation to the JROTC Service Project.

Councilman Smith thanked Pastor Russell Guynn, the Zephyrhills High School JROTC and Public Information Kevin Weiss. He thanked staff for completing the striping at the Chick-Fil-A exit and thanked Mr. Earle for the candy.

Councilman Proctor thanked the Cadets for all they do and thanked Mr. Earle for the candy.

Councilwoman Vice President Wilkeson thanked Public Information Officer Kevin Weiss and Mr. Earle for the candy. She said she has received a lot of complaints recently with dilapidated buildings, garbage pileups, etc. She said she submitted complaints through See, Click, Fix It with pictures from her personal computer and did not receive confirmation that the complaint was received. She said if someone takes the time to report an issue and attach photographs, it is important that the complaints are directed to someone for a response.

City Manager William Poe said there should have been follow-up to the See, Click, Fix It and will check into why there was no response.

Council President Knight thanked and acknowledged the Cadets, Pastor Guynn and Public Information Officer Kevin Weiss.

Meeting adjourned: 6:55 p.m.
Submitted by Lori Hillman