

Regular City Council Meeting

A Regular Council Meeting was held on November 12, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall and Via GoToMeeting (408) 650-3123 - Access Code: 170-588-469. Council President Kenneth M. Burgess Jr. called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Roll call was taken. Present were members Kenneth M. Burgess Jr., Charles Proctor, Jodi Wilkeson, Lance Smith, Steven F. Spina, PhD. and Mayor Melonie Bahr Monson. City Manager William Poe and City Attorney Matthew Maggard were also present.

Staff present: Public Works Director Shane LeBlanc, Utilities Director John Bostic III, Planning Director Todd Vande Berg, Airport Manager Nathan Coleman, Building Official Bill Burgess, CRA Director Gail Hamilton, IT Director Mike Panak, Public Information Officer Kevin Weiss, Finance Director Ted Beason, Principal Planner Rodney Corriveau, GIS Community Planner Tommy-Lee Hunt and Acting City Clerk Ricardo Quinones.

The Invocation was led by Pastor Dennis Harmeson of Awake Wesleyan Church, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Ron Aipperspach – 3244 Steeplechase Road, Wesley Chapel FL - spoke from the floor.

Mr. Aipperspach spoke on behalf of a friend whose property near the YMCA flooded due to the retention pond spilling out. Mr. Aipperspach requested a pause on nearby developments and collaborative efforts involving the City, County, and SWFWMD to address ongoing drainage issues.

Council said that a meeting will be scheduled with relevant stakeholders to explore solutions

David Moral – 38603 Young Drive Zephyrhills FL - spoke from the floor.

Mr. Moral raised concerns about elevated developments near Wire Road causing flooding on neighboring properties. Mr. Moral suggested collaborative solutions between the city, county, and SWFWMD to address inadequate drainage.

Kyle Salvato – 4241 Skydive Lane Zephyrhills FL – spoke from the floor.

Mr. Salvato announced Skydive City's skydiving event featuring daytime and nighttime shows on Friday at 4:00 PM and 7:00 PM, respectively. Mr. Salvato invited the public to attend, emphasizing the community's resilience following recent challenges.

Vicki Wiggins – 38550 5th Avenue, Zephyrhills – spoke from the floor.

Ms. Wiggins announced the ribbon-cutting ceremony for Seasons of Hope on Friday, November 17, 2024, at 11:00 AM.

1. MAYOR

1.1 Proclamation - Bill Nye

Mayor Monson recognized Bill Nye for his 50 years of service to the Zephyrhills community, highlighting his contributions to local development, community initiatives, and economic growth.

1.2 ZEDC Update - Dr. Randy Stovall

Dr. Randy Stoval of East Pasco Chamber of Commerce gave the quarterly update. Dr. Stoval reported the Economic Summit was rescheduled to December 11, 2024. Discussions underway with potential investors, including plans for a new hotel. Business survey results expected by January 2025 to inform future strategies.

1.3 Water Use Permit update - Michelle Hays and Michael Clark

Mike Clark and Michelle Hays updated Council on the water use permit renewal process, which limits water usage to 4.11 million gallons per day (MGD) with potential increases to 4.49 MGD upon demonstrated need.

Lance Smith asked what counts as proof of demand.

City Manager Poe said Council approving development projects or the developer entering into a Utilities service agreement and paying 50% of capacity.

Discussion followed regarding development timelines, conservation efforts, and challenges of balancing growth with resource management. Final permit approval is anticipated by early 2025, pending board review and potential public challenges.

1.4 Moratorium on Residential Development

Planning Director Todd Vande Berg reviewed the status of residential projects in the development queue, categorized by approval stages.

Council discussed the importance of addressing infrastructure challenges, including stormwater management and transportation, as part of future planning with an emphasis on balancing growth with sustainability.

2. CONSENT ITEMS

2.1 Agreement 41-24-37 - Sign Printer Piggyback Agreement

2.2 Outside Utility Agreement 45-24-34 - Regina & Lula Wade 5311 Lantana st, Zephyrhills, FL 33542

2.3 Purchase Telehandler for Public Works Department

2.4 ~~Agreement 41-22-12A - Infotect Piggyback Extension Agreement~~

2.5 Grant Agreement Z4373 with FEMA - Hurricane Milton DR4834

Steve Spina motioned to approve consent items 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.5 and pull item 2.4 for discussion. Seconded by Charles Proctor. Motion passed unanimously.

2.4 Agreement 41-22-12A - Infotect Piggyback Extension Agreement

Councilman Spina asked Staff to be cognizant of the agenda packet size when possible. Include what is needed to inform Council with additional information upon request.

Steve Spina motioned to approve consent item 2.4. Seconded by Charles Proctor. Motion passed unanimously.

3. FINANCE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

3.1 Agreement 37-24-14 - Carlisle Thompson, LLC - FEMA Public Assistance Grant Management Support Services (piggyback)

Finance Director Ted Beason said the proposed agreement would provide the City with assistance in preparing our FEMA documentation for reimbursement after Milton.

Lance Smith motioned to approve Agreement 37-24-14. Seconded by Jodi Wilkeson. Motion passed unanimously.

4. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

4.1 City Hall Lobby Wall Signage

Public Information Officer Kevin Weiss informed Council that a design change was needed to minimize impact on the porcelain wall tiles.

Councilwomen Wilkeson suggested getting a cardboard rendering for better visualization.

Council suggested making the signage smaller.

MAYOR ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Monson expressed pride in the community's Veterans Day events, including a reenactment, parade, and ceremony, highlighting the city's strong commitment to honoring veterans. She announced the newly formed Youth Council, praising the members' innovative ideas and the support of community mentors. Additionally, the Mayor mentioned participating in the Great American Teach-In, swearing in a student body president at a private school, and emphasized her love for connecting with the community through such opportunities

CITY MANAGER ANNOUNCEMENTS

City Manager Poe reported:

- Five department heads will participate in the Great American Teach-In at Woodland Elementary.
- Over 53,000 cubic yards of debris have been cleared, and all lift stations in Silver Oaks are operational, except Wedgewood (Station 30), which requires further investigation for potential line damage.
- Ryan Gwyn, a local Zephyrhills resident, was confirmed as Pasco County Fire Chief.
- Cameron Stewart, a former city sanitation employee, tragically passed away in a motorcycle accident. A service will be held on Sunday at Hodge's Funeral Home.

CITY ATTORNEY ANNOUNCEMENTS - NONE

CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS

Steven Spina - Asked if the City paid for the RFQ for the theatre. CRA Director Gail Hamilton said that Mainstreet Zephyrhills paid for it but the City helped prepare it. City Manager said that the Purchasing Officer helped post the RFQ on bid net to get a larger response pool.

Charles Proctor - Thanked the Mayor for bringing back the Mayor's Youth Council. He also thanked the City Manager for moving the City through a major disaster.

Jodi Wilkeson - Thanked the City Manager for his hard work and being aware of the recovery status throughout the City. Zephyrhills recovery response time was better than other cities and smaller communities.

Lance Smith - Echoed his thanks to the City Manager for his work and keeping Council informed. Mr. Smith thanked Staff for working around the clock and was proud that they could get overtime pay for the people that deserved it. He reminded the public about the See-Click-Fix app and how it keeps Staff informed.

Kenneth Burgess - Thank Staff for their hard work and managing recovery efforts along with regular work responsibilities. Burgess mentioned the rideshare company Freebee wants to do a presentation for Council. City Manager Poe said it can be added to the November 25th meeting.

5. NOTED ITEMS

- 5.1 Right of Way Dedication
14th Avenue by West Zephyrhills Elementary
- 5.2 Work Order No. 24-166 - Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc., for design and engineering of Depot Museum Parking Lot for paving

ADJOURN 8:17 p.m.

Submitted by Ricardo Quiñones