

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

A Regular City Council Meeting was held on February 10, 2025 at 6:00 PM in the Council Chambers of City Hall and Via GoToMeeting (646) 749-3122 - Access Code: 855-960-693. Council President Kenneth M. Burgess Jr. called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM

Roll call was taken. Present were members Lance Smith, Kenneth M. Burgess Jr., Charles Proctor, Steven F. Spina Ph.D. and Mayor Melonie Bahr Monson. City Manager William Poe and City Attorney Matthew Maggard were also present. Jodi Wilkeson was not present.

Staff present: Public Works Director Shane LeBlanc, Planning Director Todd Vande Berg, Utilities Director John Bostic III, CRA Director Gail Hamilton, HR & Risk Management Director Sandra Amerson, Airport Manager Nathan Coleman, Finance Director Ted Beason, Building Official Calvin Switzer, Lieutenant Nathan Gardner, Public Information Officer Intern Sophia Reyes and City Clerk Ricardo Quinones.

***** City Council President Kenneth M. Burgess Jr. acknowledged the passing of longtime friend, colleague and coach Tom Fisher. *****

The Invocation was led by Pastor Julio Garcia.

The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

1. Devin Pollay - 4029 Peaceful Lane – **Not Present.**

2. Leigh Anne Jensen - 5549 23rd Street Zephyrhills Florida - Spoke from the floor. Ms. Jensen expressed concerns about the timing of the Hercules Park Grand Opening and requested consideration for weekend scheduling of similar future events. She also inquired about revising the City's ordinance to allow limited backyard chickens due to increasing egg scarcity.

3. Kendall Deford - 5714 18th Street Zephyrhills Florida - Spoke from the floor. Mr. Deford thanked Public Works for their efforts during the Pigs in Z'Hills event.

MAYOR

1 Students Working Against Tobacco [S.W.A.T.] - Thank you to Council Student Amare from the SWAT program thanked the City Council for adopting the no-smoking ordinance for City parks.

2 Florida Rural Water Association - Appreciation of Support
The Florida Rural Water Association recognized the City of Zephyrhills for its assistance during the post-Hurricane Milton recovery efforts.

3 Black History Month Proclamation
Mayor Melonie Bahr Monson Proclaimed February 2025 Black History Month in the City of Zephyrhills.

1. CONSENT ITEMS

1.1 Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes - January 27, 2025

- 1.2 Approval of Task Assignment JE 25-02, Wastewater Equalization Tank Design by Jones Edmunds
- 1.3 Approval of Task Order to RCM Utilities for Lift Station 28 Resiliency Improvements
- 1.4 Appointment of New Airport Authority Board Member
- 1.5 Approval of Outside Utility Services - Scott James Hickox Agreement 45-25-03
- 1.6 Approval of AD Morgan Construction Easement Agreement 16-25-01

Steve Spina motioned to approve the six consent items as presented. Seconded by Lance Smith. Motion Passed, 4-0.

2. FINANCE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- 2.1 Request to change part-time position to full-time

Finance Director Ted Beason requested authorization to convert one part-time position to a full-time position, noting that this change would not impact the budget.

Lance Smith motioned to approve changing the one part-time position to full-time. Seconded by Charles Proctor. Motion Passed, 4-0.

3. PLANNING DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- 3.1 Planning Report - Indoor storage outdoor storage code recommendations

Planning Director Todd Vande Berg provided an update on the city's moratorium on indoor storage and outdoor storage regulations. He presented considerations for new restrictions, including mixed-use integration, design standards, and location limitations.

Discussion followed. Staff will return with proposed recommendations.

4. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

- 4.1 Request a Date for Mayor's Caucus

City Manager William Poe reported the City Charter requires a Mayor's Caucus to accept candidates for the 2025 municipal elections. Mr. Poe recommended February 18, 2025.

Lance Smith motioned to hold a Mayor's Caucus on February 18, 2025 at 5:00 PM. Seconded by Charles Proctor. Motion Passed, 4-0.

- 4.2 Public Records Exemption - Municipal Clerks

First Reading Resolution No. 846-25 " **A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ZEPHYRHILLS, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ZEPHYRHILLS URGING THE FLORIDA STATE LEGISLATURE TO ENACT LEGISLATION TO PROVIDE A PUBLIC RECORDS EXEMPTION FOR MUNICIPAL CLERKS AND EMPLOYEES WHO PERFORM MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS WORK OR HAVE ANY PART IN CODE ENFORCEMENT FUNCTIONS OF A CITY AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. "**

City Attorney Matthew Maggard read Resolution No. 846-25 by title.

Lance Smith motioned to approve Resolution No. 846-25 on the first reading. Seconded by Steven Spina. Motion Passed, 4-0.

MAYOR ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Monson commended city staff for their work on the Pigs in Z'Hills event and noted that Habitat for Humanity would be installing a roof for a veteran in Zephyrhills on February 11, 2025. She also encouraged attendance at the Hercules Park Grand Opening on February 13, 2025.

CITY MANAGER ANNOUNCEMENTS

City Manager William Poe reported updates on various City projects and initiatives. Construction on the Tennis Center remained on schedule for completion in June, while the Hercules Park Grand Opening was set for February 13, 2025. Stormwater mitigation efforts continued, with Silver Oaks and Zephyr Creek added to the Local Mitigation Strategy in coordination with Pasco County and SWFWMD. The National Guard held a groundbreaking ceremony for a new facility in Zephyrhills. The City Yard Project budget was under review due to cost concerns. Four projects were submitted for state appropriations funding, and negotiations with SWFWMD were ongoing regarding the city's permitted water use and future demands.

Mr. Poe requested to move the Workshop for the Parks Master Plan review and CRA Master Plan review from March 17th to another date. Council agreed to move the Workshop to March 18th pending confirmation the consultants can reschedule as well.

CITY ATTORNEY ANNOUNCEMENTS – NONE

CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS

Lance Smith - Congratulated Amare, commended Zephyr Creek repairs, and requested a park safety discussion on the next agenda. Thanked the new City Clerk for adapting to the role.

Charles Proctor - Praised the success of Pigs in Z'Hills.

Steven Spina - Thanked the new City Clerk.

Kenneth Burgess - Expressed appreciation for the opportunity to speak about Tom Fisher and thanked the new City Clerk.

5. NOTED ITEMS

- 5.1 RCM Utilities Emergency Work at the Water Tower
- 5.2 Hidden River Lift Station Deed

ADJOURN 7:35 PM

Submitted by Ricardo Quinones.